

THE BRITISH EMPIRE, 1913

A FIRST HISTORY OF ENGLAND

BY

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Bombay

*WITH OVER 130 ILLUSTRATIONS
AND MAPS*

TWELFTH EDITION

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PREFACE.

Some excuse is needed for adding another to the very large number of elementary manuals of English History ; the author trusts it may be found in

(I) the plain and easy language of this text-book ;

(II) the excision of many usual details, especially concerning the remote past ;

(III) the addition of a simple chapter on European history ;

(IV) the specific instructions regarding the dates and facts to be definitely committed to memory.

For the rest, it is trusted that the statement of controversial issues is fair, while such lessons as history can teach, so far as they come within the comprehension of the young, are sufficiently indicated.

Teachers are invited to notice that (I) the dates provided in the margin are merely for reference ; a list of dates which boys should learn will be found in an appendix ; (II) the concluding paragraphs of each chapter (following the bar) are supplementary to the others and need not be taught on a first reading of the book.

The Illustrations are due to the energy and enterprise of the publishers. It is believed that they illustrate the development of English life in every aspect, from the earliest times to the present day. Teachers should make every use of them, explaining them in detail to their classes. Especially they should point out which are contemporary drawings, and explain that though such drawings may not satisfy modern ideas of art, they certainly show us what things were actually like in the past.

J N. F.

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A FIRST HISTORY OF ENGLAND.

, CHAPTER 1.

LOOKING BACK

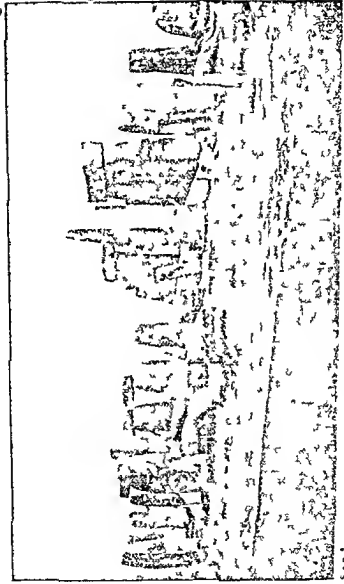
1. This earth on which we live is a very old place; for countless millions of years it has been circling round the sun. There have not always been men upon it, and we cannot say when first they came here or how they came. But we know that long ages have passed since that time, for sometimes under the rocks and clay of the earth we find the bones of ancient men, which were buried there in very early days. We can partly make out how old they are by considering how much the earth has changed since they were laid there, and thus it appears that there were men like ourselves living here more than a hundred thousand years ago.

2 We know little about the lives of these men. We do not know what their colour was nor what language they spoke, what clothes they wore nor what food they ate. But it is likely that they lived on the fruit of the woods and the flesh of wild animals; they dwelt in caves, and the few tools which

they had were made of stone. For thousands of years such men lived and died, and there was little change in their lives. But slowly they began to improve things. They made better tools, they learned to cultivate the ground, they built houses, and they built also places for the worship of God. Some of these are still left all over the world there are rings of huge stones which these early men used for religious meetings. One of these rings is in England. It is called Stonehenge. We do not know when it was made or who made it or what kind of worship was held there. We can only look at it and wonder, and ask ourselves, How did they move these huge stones?

3 We know nothing then about the *history* of these men. We do not know the history of any part of the world till we know the name of some people who have lived there and the names and deeds of their great men. We must be sure that these men really lived and we must know something about their dates. So we see that the history of a country may not go very far back. The history of England does not go so far back as the time when Stonehenge was built. It begins, as we shall see much later.

4 How do we find out the history of a country? In some countries men have written down what happened in their own lives, in order to leave a



P nfo V a c n n e P n d e c

STONEHENGE AS IT IS

SEP 9

record for those who come after them. But very often in early days we have no such record. We find however inscriptions on buildings, telling us who built them and why they were built, we dig up old coins out of the earth and learn from them the names of kings and of countries they ruled over. In later times we have the papers on which Governments set down their laws and their accounts, the letters which one Government sends to another, and the reports of officials. To-day we have newspapers and many other places where we can find information if we wish to write the history of any land and people.

5. If we wish to do so, let us try to write it truthfully. We must not be afraid of taking trouble. To read old papers in old forgotten languages is hard and slow work, but history would never have been written if there had not been men willing to do such work. Moreover, trouble and patience are not enough, a historian should also be fair and just. He often has to write about foreign people, about people who have fought with his own people and sometimes defeated them, about men whose character and opinions he does not like. He must not hide anything that is good in such men or people, nor must he hide the faults of his own countrymen. We too, who read history, should read it with the same care and honesty.

CHAPTER II.

ANCIENT BRITAIN.

1. Let us take a map, for we should never read history without a map at our side, let us take a map and look at the little island of Britain. It lies very near the coast of Europe, so near that a man can just swim across the channel that divides it from the mainland. Although it is so near, however, Britain is still an island. This has always been a good thing for the people who have lived there. It has not been easy for foreigners to invade the country, and the people of England have not suffered so much from war as other peoples have done. Being always near the water they have learned to build ships and to face the dangers of the sea, they have long been the chief traders and merchants of the world.

2 If we could see Britain as it was two thousand years ago we should find it was a much wilder country than it is to-day. The whole island was covered with forests, there were no cultivated fields, no roads and no towns. There were no large animals, like the lion and tiger of India, but there were troops of deer roaming about the forests and packs

of dangerous wolves. The inhabitants were few in number. They called themselves Britons. They lived chiefly on milk and the flesh of animals, with the skins of which they clothed themselves. They were divided into many tribes, each of which had its own chief, and they were often at war with each other.

3. These Britons could not write, and we should have known nothing about them or their history if they had not been attacked by a great Roman general named Cæsar. He came from the city of Rome, far away in Italy, which had sent him to make war on the Gauls, the people of France. After he had conquered these he looked across the Channel and made up his mind that he would invade Britain. He did so twice, in two summers, one after the other; and he landed on the southern coast and marched into the country as far as the Thames. The soldiers of his army were strong and brave and well-disciplined men, and he himself was a very great general. He overcame the Britons and took tribute from them. However, he did not return to the island, though he wrote an account of it, and from him the people of Britain have learned all they know to-day about their first forefathers.

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4. For a hundred years after this the Romans did not invade Britain again. At last however they returned; they conquered the land thoroughly and

ruled over it for three hundred years. These were years of prosperity for Britain. The Romans made long straight road across the country, roads of stone, hard and level, so that men could travel easily. They planted fruit trees and sowed corn and they built beautiful houses. Parts of these houses are still left and may be seen in England to-day.

5 But they did not govern the northern part of the island. That part is very mountainous and cold and wet, so they left it alone. They built two walls across the middle of the island, to keep the people of the north from attacking them. These people called themselves Gaels, they spoke the language of the old Britons, and the same language, Gaelic, is still spoken in the North of Britain to-day. A language very like it is spoken in another part of Britain, the far West Wales. This also is a mountainous country and some of the British tribes lived there among the mountains unconquered by the Romans. The rest of the Britons in England, took the language and manners and dress of the Romans.

6. After three hundred years however, the Romans were obliged to leave Britain. They were themselves attacked by the nations of Northern Europe, and they had to bring back their soldiers from Britain to defend Italy and the city of Rome.



Mansell

CÆSAR

FROM THE BEST IN THE BRITISH MUSEUM

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Mansell.

CÆSAR

FROM THE BUST IN THE BRITISH MUSEUM

They were overcome by their enemies, and the empire of Rome, which she had ruled so long, was divided between the French and the Germans

7 The old Britons had a religion of their own, and priests, whom they called Druids. When the Romans came to Britain they too had an old religion, they worshipped many gods, of whom the chief was named Jupiter. But while they were in Britain the new religion of Christianity was founded in Jerusalem by Christ, and it soon began to spread among the Romans and their subjects. When the Romans left Britain most of them were Christians and most of the Britons became Christians also

8 The chief cities of England during the Roman period were London, Chester and York which were all connected by very good roads. At the present day the chief remains of the Romans are (i) the Roman wall from the Solway Firth to the Tyne, (ii) the Roman baths at Bath, where there were some natural warm springs, round which the Romans made a building.

CHAPTER III

THE SAXONS.

1. When the Romans left Britain, it was a peaceful and prosperous country, but it was quite unable to defend itself against its enemies. These enemies were the same nations of Northern Europe who were fighting against Rome herself. It was not long before some of them invaded Britain. They came from the country between the Elbe and the Rhine, and their chief tribes were the Angles and the Saxons. They were different people from the old Britons, who were short men with dark hair. The Angles and the Saxons had light hair and blue eyes, their language we call Anglo-Saxon. It was different both from that of the Britons and from Latin. They had never been conquered by the Romans, so they had not the civilization of Rome, they were simply fierce wandering soldiers who came to Britain to plunder the fields and cities which the Romans had made there.

2. Tribe after tribe of the Anglo Saxons came to Britain. They gave the Britons no peace slaying them making them into slaves and driving them back into the mountains of Wales. It is said that one British prince for a time resisted them.



THE FIRST HOME OF THE ENGLISH.

REMAINS OF THE ROMAN WALL.

2100 Feet x 1000 Feet



King Arthur, who ruled the west of Britain. But we do not know if such a king really lived or not, and we can scarcely say he belongs to *history*. We do know that the Anglo-Saxons triumphed, and the south part of Britain soon became known as England, or Angle-land, the land of the English.

3. About the same time the North of the Island became known as Scotland, and it was united under a Scotch king. The Angles and the Saxons never made their way through the mountains of the North.

4. The Anglo-Saxons divided England at first into many kingdoms and fought a great deal among themselves. But after four hundred years of fighting the whole country passed under the rule of one king, and it has never been divided again since.

827.

5 We have said that the Romans brought Christianity to Britain, and we must now learn something about the Christian Church. The word 'Church' has two meanings. (1) We use it as a name for all those who follow the religion of Christ; these people form the Christian Church. (2) We use it also as a name for a building where Christians worship; this we call a 'church.'

6. After the death of Christ the power to rule the Church belonged to men called 'Priests,' who also taught people their religious duties and performed for them the ceremonies of religion. Among

the priests there were some of higher rank called bishops ; each bishop ruled over a part or district of the Church, and he had a church of his own called a cathedral. The priests were not married and they had of course no children, If a man wished to become a priest he went to a bishop and asked the bishop to make him a priest. This the bishop had power to do. The chief bishop of the Church was the Bishop of Rome, who became so powerful that all the Christian Church in the west of Europe obeyed him. He received the title of 'Pope,' which is the Italian word for father, because he was considered the Head and Father of the Church.

7. When the Romans left Britain they left behind them the Christian Church, with bishops and priests and churches everywhere. The Saxons, however, when first they reached the country, were not Christians. They worshipped gods of their own, after whom the days of the week are still called 'Sunday' means the day of the Sun; 'Monday' the day of the Moon, and 'Wednesday' the day of Odin. They killed the Christian priests and destroyed the Christian churches and for a time Christianity disappeared from England. But slowly, in course of many years, the Saxons became Christians. The Bishop of Rome the Pope, sent missionaries to teach them, and other missionaries came from the island of Ireland, of which we shall

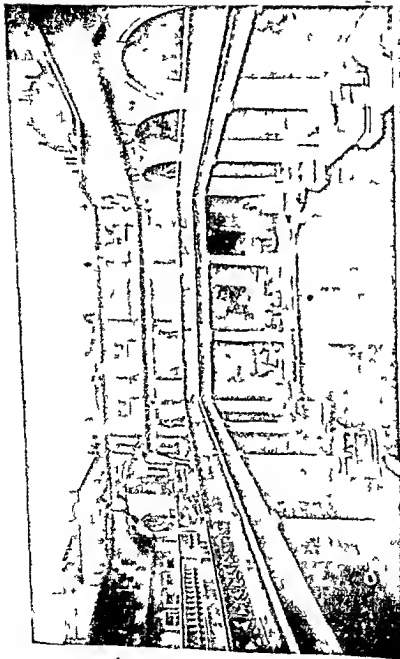


Photo. Frith Regal

ROMAN BATH AT BATH

See p.

war between them and the Saxons. Alfred fought them for many years. He built a fleet, to meet them on the sea, and at last he overcame them by land. Afterwards he allowed many of them to settle peacefully in the East of England and persuaded them to become Christians.

10. After the death of Alfred there were fresh invasions of the Danes; they even conquered the Saxons for a time and there were two Danish kings of England. One of them was named Canute. Fortunately, he was a brave and wise man; he kept the country at peace and he was respected both by the Saxons and the Danes.

11. When the Saxons settled in England, they used to live together in small bands wherever they found good soil and water. They sowed the land near them and gathered the crop every year; but the land was always the common property of the whole settlement. No one was ever allowed to call any piece of it his own. In the land that was not sown, the *jungle*, as we should call it in India, every one was allowed to hunt.

12. Each settlement governed itself. The freemen of the settlement held meetings, and considered what crops they would plant and tried any one who had broken the laws. The laws were made by a meeting of freemen from the whole

nation, named the Witan-gemoot, or Meeting of Wise Men, which was called together by the king.

13 After the Saxons became Christians there were founded in England many monasteries. A monastery is a place where religious men live together spending most of their time in the worship of God. Such men are called monks, and we must not forget that the monks taught the world many things beside religion. They were great builders and gardeners, and made all the books that were read in those days. They wrote them very carefully with quill pens on sheets of parchment, which have lasted so well that many of them are as good to-day as when they were made, though they are over a thousand years old. All the schools were kept by the monks, and the monasteries were the only places where the traveller could stay at night in safety.

14. For many years there were seven Saxon 600-
kingdoms in England, of which the chief were 800.
Northumbria, Mercia and Wessex. Northumbria,
as we see from the name, included all the country
North of the Humber; Mercia occupied all the
midlands of England and Wessex almost all the
country South of the Thames. It was a king of
Wessex, Egbert, who became the first king of
the whole of England.



ALFRED THE GREAT.
MONUMENT AT WINCHESTER

speaking presently. Thus England, as well as Scotland, became Christian again.

8. The greatest of the Saxon kings was Alfred. 871. He was a just and pious man; a friend of peace and progress. He built many schools and churches: Improved the laws, and caused a history or chronicle of the Anglo-Saxon people to be written. He was always in very poor health, but he was one of the most hard-working of our kings, and no name is more loved or honoured in our history. It is a thousand years since he lived, but his descendants have always ruled over England, King George V is a descendant of Alfred.

9. Alfred loved peace, but during many years of his reign he was greatly troubled by war. For the same thing that happened to the Britons before now happened to the Saxons; when they became civilised, they were attacked by an uncivilised people, the Danes. These lived near the country where the Saxons first came from; they were much like the first Saxons. They were fierce soldiers, who came to England, as the Saxons had done, to plunder the land. They sent long narrow boats full of soldiers, who sailed up the rivers, till they reached the towns. These they burned and plundered and then they sailed away again. At last some of them settled in the East of England, and there was much

15. We must think of Canute as the king not only of England but of Denmark and Norway. As he could not be always in England he made some of his followers *Earls* or rulers over part of the country. This title has continued since his day.

16. The last Saxon king of England before the Conquest was Edward the Confessor. He was a good and pious man but not strong enough for a king. While he was on the throne many Normans came to England and took service under him, and thus they found out that it was a rich desirable country and they began to think of conquering it.



See p 13

THE KING PRESIDING OVER THE WITAN

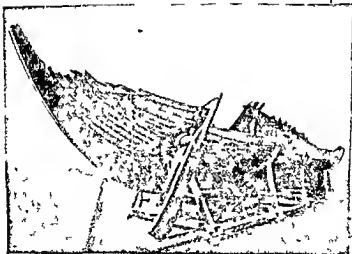


See p 13

A MONK MAKING A BOOK



SEAL OF EDWARD THE CONFESSOR.



See p. 13

Phot. West South.

REMAINS OF A VIKING SHIP

CHAPTER IV.

THE NORMANS.

1. We have seen the Island of Britain invaded by the Romans, the Saxons, and the Danes; we shall now see it invaded once more, by the Normans, and that will be the last invasion in its history. Who were the Normans?

The name means 'North Men,' and the Normans were people much like the Danes, who lived to the North of Denmark, in the peninsula of Scandinavia. About the time when the Danes first invaded England the Normans began to send out their soldiers, or Vikings, to plunder the countries of Southern Europe. They went as far as the Mediterranean, for they were very brave adventurous men, and for three hundred years they terrified the coasts of Europe. But at last most of them settled down in a part of France, called after them Normandy. Here they became Christians, and they gave up their old language, which was like that of the Danes, and they spoke French.

2. A little while after the death of Canute the Normans were ruled by a leader or 'Duke' named William, and he determined to make himself King of England. He got together a fleet of little boats, 106

crowded his men into them and crossing the Channel landed near the port of Has'tings. The king of England at the time was Harold. He was a great general and a brave soldier, and he fought against William one of the longest and hardest battles in history. The Saxons fought on foot, armed with axes and heavy swords, standing in a close line behind their shields. The Normans brought many archers to the field, and their chief warriors rode on horseback. They charged the Saxon line many times in vain, till at last William ordered them to pretend to run away. When they did this the Saxons broke up their line to pursue them, and while they were in confusion the Norman horsemen turned and attacked them. Thus the Saxons were beaten, and by the end of the day Harold with most of his soldiers lay dead upon the field.

3. William was then crowned King of England, on Christmas Day, 1066 A D. For some years afterwards he was still busy fighting against the Saxons who rose more than once in rebellion against his rule. He was quite merciless in war, and in the North of England he killed men, women and children till the land became a desert. But he taught the Saxons that it was not wise to resist the Normans any more, and after a few years war came to an end.

4. In peace William was a just ruler. He kept the Saxon laws, and he was a good friend of the Church. He caused a book to be written, in which the names of all freemen were entered, with a statement of their land and property. This was done in order that every man might be taxed according to his wealth. The name of this book is Domesday Book; for 'Dcom' means 'judgment,' and the book was intended to help the king in judging how much each man ought to pay. Like King Alfred's Chronicle, Domesday Book is very useful to us now, for we learn from it what England was like in those days.

5. Though the Saxons kept their old laws, they lost a great deal by the Norman conquest. Many of them became slaves. They lost their share in the common land, for the Conqueror gave much of the best land to his friends, and almost all the rest he kept for himself. He called this the King's forest, and the Saxons could no longer go and hunt in it, as they used to do. So for many years the Saxons had a hard and often a miserable life.

6. We must remember that William was king not only of England, but of Normandy in France. He was often abroad travelling in Normandy and keeping order there. He was killed in a little war in France. 1087.

7. The Normans who were now settled in England were a race of great men

(1) They were tall and strong in person, and lovers of war. Their chief warriors were called *Knights*. These fought on horseback, with lance and sword, and they were covered with heavy armour, made of either steel plates or a net work of steel chains

(ii) These knights lived on estates or lands of their own which were given to them by the King. In return for their lands they promised to be faithful to the King and help him in his wars. Sometimes, however, they forgot this promise, and quarrelled with the King and fought against him. In fact the Norman kings had much trouble with their barons, as the largest landholders were called. The barons wished to build great castles, where they could lodge in safety, fighting each other when they wished and often plundering the poor who lived near them. The kings did not like their barons to build these castles, and a strong king would make the barons pull them down.

(iii) The chief amusement of these barons in peace was hunting, they were fond of music too, and they had minstrels to sing to them in their castles. They admired fine buildings, and the Norman clergy covered England with magnificent churches



GREAT SEAL OF WILLIAM THE CONQUEROR.

In villa ubi sedes ecclesie s. petri tunc abb. vnde
 lxx. xii. lxx. dmi. tunc. d. x. car. ad dñum
 pñ. x. lxx. dñi. tunc. d. x. car. ad dñum
 car. x. car. plus pñ. lxx. x. car. qñq. dñi. x. car.
 tunc. dñi. dñi. tunc. dñi. qñq. dñi. x. car.
 de x. dñi. tunc. dñi. pñ. x. car. tunc. dñi.
 pñ. x. car. pñ. x. car. ad pñ. x. car. dñi. x. car.
 x. car. dñi. tunc. dñi. tunc. dñi. x. car.
 tunc. dñi. pñ. x. car. tunc. dñi. x. car.
 pñ. x. car. tunc. dñi. x. car. tunc. dñi.

See p. 17.

REDUCED FACSIMILE OF PART OF
DOMESDAY BOOK.



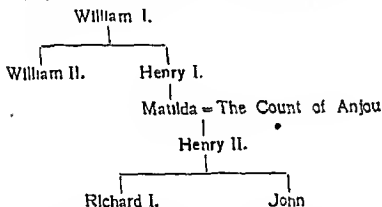
1. ROMAN SOLDIERS. 2. SAXON SOLDIER WITH BATTLE-AXE.



3. DANISH SOLDIER WITH TWO-EDGED SWORD.
4. NORMAN KNIGHT AND SOLDIER.

The Saxons had no such buildings, and we may say that in every way the Normans were a stronger, more active and grander people than the Saxons.

8. This table shows the three Norman kings and their connection with the House of Anjou.



9. William II. was a harsh ruler, but a great soldier, like his father. Henry I was also a soldier and an able king. He ruled England well and was called by the English themselves 'The Lion of Righteousness.' His only son was drowned in the English Channel, and his daughter Matilda had a long fight for the throne with her cousin Stephen. England fell into misery; the great nobles ill-treated the poor and the land had no rest till another strong king, Henry II., rose up to keep order again.

10. The plan of giving land to men on condition that they should fight for the king is called the 'Feudal System.' 'Feudal' means 'connected with a *fief*,' and a *fief* is a piece of land given to a man on condition that he shall fight for the king. William took care to give his great nobles their *fiefs* in different parts of England, so that each of them had his own men scattered all over the country and could not easily bring them together to fight for him.

11. In time of peace the knights enjoyed a war-like amusement called 'tilting.' Two knights were said 'to tilt' when, clothed in their armour, they rode on horseback at each other, with long spears in their hands, trying to see which could thrust the other from his horse. Sometimes many knights gathered for a number of these tilts, and the gathering was called a tournament. As the knights were shut up in their armour they could not be recognised by their faces, but each knight carried a sign painted on his shield, called a *coat-of-arms*.

Later on, it became the rule for a son to carry his father's *coat-of-arms*, and thus each noble family had its own *coat-of-arms*, and noble families still use them to-day.

CHAPTER V.

THE HOUSE OF ANJOU.

HENRY II. 1154 TO 1189.

1. Anjou is a part of France near Normandy, and the baron who ruled over it (the Count of Anjou) married the daughter of a Norman king. Their son was named Henry and he became King of England as Henry II — Henry the Second. He was also descended from the old Saxon kings of England. 1154.

2. He married a French lady who was heiress to a large province of France, and his son married another French heiress, so that altogether he ruled over more than half of France. He was one of the most powerful kings in Europe.

3. He was the first English king to attack Ireland, and we must now take a look at the history of that island. At the time when Cæsar crossed the Channel, the people of Ireland were much like the people of Britain and lived in much the same way. They called themselves Irish and they used a language, Erse, which is still spoken in Ireland to-day. They were heathens, but a great Irish saint named Patrick preached Christianity to them, and 400.

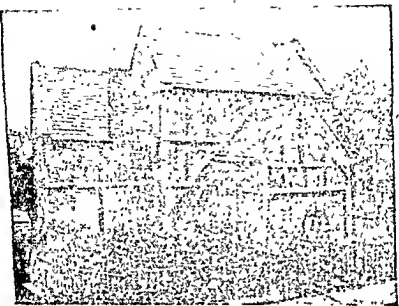
they became Christians. We have seen that they themselves sent Christian missionaries to preach to the Saxons.

4 Later on, the island was invaded by the Danes, and many fierce and bloody battles were fought between the Irish and the Danes. The Danes at last were beaten, but the Irish were left very weak and divided into many little bands with small princes of their own.

5. The Saxons never entered Ireland, but the Normans did so, and many Norman barons seized pieces of land and built castles there. At last Henry I. went over himself and proclaimed himself king of both the Normans and the Irish. Since, however, he could not stay to keep order, there was no peace between the Normans and the Irish and for long afterwards there was nothing but war and trouble in the island.

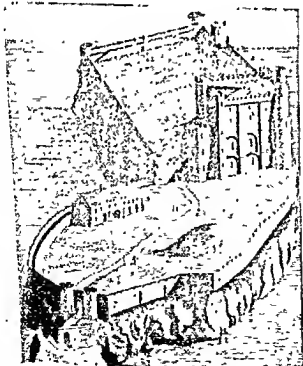
6 England was more fortunate, for Henry II was a wise and hardworking ruler, and no king has done more for the country. Let us see what he did.

In the time of the Saxons as we have seen, men who were accused of a crime were tried by the freemen of the village. When the Normans came, the right of trying them was given to the great barons. As the Normans were fond of fighting, they often made the accused man fight his accuser,



R Wilkinson Trowbridge

SAXON CHURCH, BRADFORD-ON-AVON.



See p. 13.

NORMAN CASTLE.



HENRY II

QUEEN ELEANOR

FROM EFFIGIES AT FONTEVRAULT

to see which of them was right. They thought God would help the right side, and, if the accused man were innocent, he would win. This was called Trial by Battle. But we can see that very often the wrong man won, simply because he was stronger than the other. Now Henry II changed this. In the first place he chose his own judges and sent them round the country to try cases. Secondly, he ordered them, when they held a trial, to summon a body of freemen to decide if the accused man was guilty or not. If the freemen found that he was guilty the judge pronounced sentence on him. The body of freemen was called a jury. Ever since that time this has been the mode of trial in England, the king's judges have gone round the country, and every accused man has had the right to be tried by a jury. This is the best plan of trial that men have yet invented.

7. The chief trouble of Henry II's reign was a quarrel between him and the priests of the Church. We have seen how much the priests did to help and raise the country, but at the same time they gained a great deal of power for themselves. At the Norman Conquest they had gained the right to be tried in their own courts if they were accused of any crime. So a priest could only be tried by priests, and it sometimes happened that a priest

who was guilty was not properly punished. Besides, no priest could be put to death for any crime. Now Henry II thought that his own judges ought to try the priests, and they ought to be punished in the same way as other men. He ordered that this should be so, but the priests had a stout leader in Thomas Becket, the Bishop of Canterbury, who refused to submit to the King. The quarrel went on for many years, and at last Becket was murdered in his own cathedral by four knights who were friends of the King. The people of England were angry at this, and they looked on Becket as a 'martyr,' a man who had died in defence of religion. They forgot that Henry had not intended to harm religion, but only to strengthen the laws of the country. They remembered only Becket's unhappy death, and when the Pope declared him a saint they made pilgrimages to his tomb in Canterbury cathedral. Henry even thought it best to go there himself and allow himself to be beaten with rods, as a sign of sorrow for Becket's death. As for the priests, they kept the right to be tried in their own courts for hundreds of years after Henry's time.

8 It was in Henry's reign that the Normans and Saxons began to live as friends together and forgot the long wars between them and the Conquest. From this time we shall speak of Normans and Saxons no longer, but of the English people.

9. At the same time the English language was born. It was the child of the Saxon and the Norman-French language, and parts of it belonged to each. Some one has said that, if we compare English to a house, the nails and glue in the house are Saxon and the bricks Norman. This means that many names of things are Norman, while the words that join them, like 'is' and 'to,' are Saxon.

10. Henry II was not only a good king but a kind father. He had however much trouble with his sons. They rose in rebellion against him more than once, and many of the barons in England and France joined them. Henry put down their rebellions and forgave his sons, but they rose against him till the last, and the old King died, after thirty-five years on the throne, full of grief and disappointment.

11. The house of Anjou are also known as the Plantagenets, for the *plantagenet* is a little yellow flower which they took as the sign of their family.

The kings of this house were :

Henry II	Edward I.
Richard I.	Edward II.
John.	Edward III.
Henry III.	Richard II.

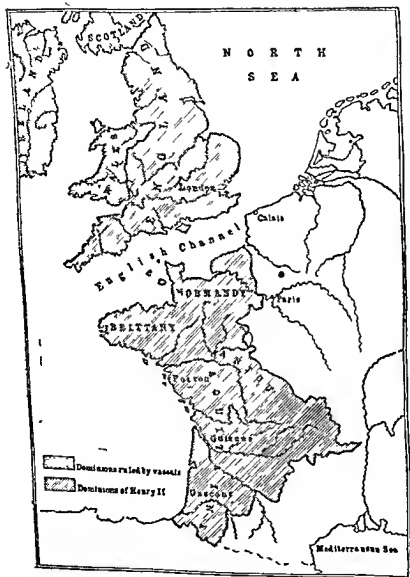
12. Henry II's French dominions were these:—

- (1) *Normandy*, which had belonged to the Conqueror ;
- (II) *Anjou*, which belonged to his father ;
- (III) *Aquitaine*, which belonged to his wife ;
- (IV) *Brittany*, which belonged to the wife of his son.

These made up the whole of France west of the Loire and the Seine.

13 Thomas Becket was only an ordinary priest, whom Henry II. raised because he thought he would help him to govern the country as he wished. He made him Archbishop of Canterbury, which is the highest post in the English Church. Up till then Becket had been a friend of the King; but after that he opposed him and tried to increase the power of priests.

14 The king of Scotland in Henry II.'s time was William the Lion. He was a great soldier, and thought himself strong enough to attack Henry. He was defeated, however, and taken prisoner, and before he was set free was obliged to acknowledge Henry as his superior and himself as Henry's subject. This acknowledgment was called 'homage'; William 'did homage' to Henry for his crown. Henry also claimed as English land the South of Scotland, as far as Edinburgh, and till the time of Bruce this really belonged to England.



HENRY II'S FRENCH DOMINIONS.



RICHARD CŒUR DE LION AND SALADIN AT THE BATTLE OF ASCALON

FROM A PAINTING BY A COOPER

CHAPTER VI.

RICHARD I. 1189 TO 1199.

1. Richard I. was the eldest son of Henry II. He was a tall handsome man, with fire blue eyes ; one of the greatest soldiers and leaders of soldiers in Europe. He cared little about the good government of his realm ; all his heart was in war. During the ten years of his reign he spent only a few months in England and he could not speak English, but the English people admired his courage and were loyal to him. He was called *Coeur-de-Lion*, which is the French for *Lion-heart*.

2. The wars in which Richard I. took part were chiefly the Crusades. To understand why they were fought we must look back a little at the history of Europe.

3. After the death of Christ it became a custom for Christians to make pilgrimages to Jerusalem and visit the place where he was crucified. This they were easily able to do, for Jerusalem belonged to a Christian ruler, the Emperor of Constantinople. After some centuries, however, came Mahommed, and the Mahommedans soon conquered every part of Western Asia. The Christians were still allowed to visit Jerusalem, but it became difficult for them

•

to do so, and they saw the Christian churches pulled down and mosques built in their place. When the pilgrims brought back news of this to their homes there was much anger in Europe and at last people everywhere determined on a Holy War to win back the Holy City from the Mahomedans.

4. The war took place a little after the conquest of England by William I. It is called the First Crusade, or war on behalf of the Cross, and it was not unsuccessful. A great army was collected from every country in Europe, which was joined by men of every degree, rich and poor. Some of them went to Palestine in ships; others marched through Europe to Constantinople, crossed the Bosphorus and continued their way across Asia Minor. Many of them died of cold and hunger; many of them were killed in battle, but they went on marching and fighting till at last they did actually recover the Holy City and set up there a Christian king.

5. No great Englishman took part in this First Crusade. During the hundred years that followed it the Mahomedans seized Jerusalem again and drove out the Christian king, so that when Richard I. began his reign Jerusalem was held by the Saracen Saladin. Once more the nations of Europe

sent an army of Crusaders to recover it, and Richard was one of its leaders. Along with him went the King of France and the Emperor of Germany. Unfortunately, the Emperor was drowned in a river, and the King of France went back to Europe. Without the aid of their soldiers Richard was not strong enough to fight Saladin, and though he saw the walls of Jerusalem he had to return and leave it in Saladin's power.

Till
1270

6. This was the only time an English king took part in a Crusade, but the Crusades went on for a hundred years more. They brought about many changes in Europe. It is during the Crusades that we hear most of the knights. A man was not allowed to call himself a knight till he had shown that he was a good soldier, and then he received the title from a soldier who was already a knight. He had to make a promise that he would fight only in good causes and that he would protect the weak, especially women, against ill-treatment. This use of strength and arms is what we call chivalry, and a knight who kept his promise to use them in this way was a chivalrous man. Many knights joined in companies for special purposes; some promised not only to fight but to nurse the sick and wounded. Such knights as these were somewhat like the monks of the monasteries.

5.

7. When Richard I. failed in his Crusade he set off home again. Unfortunately, on his way he was caught by an Austrian duke who was an enemy of his, and he was shut up in a castle. He had to pay an enormous sum to buy his freedom. The people of England, however, found the money for him, though each of them had to give up a quarter of a year's income, and Richard came back to his kingdom.

8. He did not stay in England long, for the King of France was trying to take away his French provinces from him. He went to France to fight for them and in one of the wars there he was killed.

9. The first Mahommedan conquerors of Palestine were the Arabs. They were a generous people who did not forbid Christian worship in Jerusalem and the Christian pilgrims were not injured by them. They were followed by Turkish invaders from Western Asia, who were less civilised and much harsher to the pilgrims.

The name Saracen is given by Europeans to the Mahommedans of Egypt and Palestine, whether they were Arabs or Turks. Saladin was a Turk.



A KNIGHT
SHOWING ARMOUR OF THE
11TH AND 12TH CENTURIES



A KNIGHT
SHOWING ARMOUR WORN
AT THE END OF THE 13TH
CENTURY



See p. 33

KING JOHN GRANTING MAGNA CARTA

Mansell

CHAPTER VII.

JOHN. 1199 to 1216.

1. Richard I. was succeeded by his brother John, the youngest son of Henry II. It is a strange thing that good men so often have bad sons, yet such is the case, and the contrast between Henry II. and John reminds us of it. There has been no greater King of England than Henry II., yet his son John was perhaps the worst of our kings, and his reign begins with one of the vilest deeds in English history. Though he was crowned King of England he had some reason to be afraid of a young nephew of his named Arthur, who was then fifteen years old. He got this boy into his power and murdered him. 119

2. The French king, Philip, seeing that John was a very different person from his brother, now attacked him openly. John showed himself both foolish and cowardly, and in two or three years he lost almost all his vast dominions in France. Though this was a disgrace to him, yet it was a good thing for England. The Norman barons in England had now no land in France; England now became in every way their home and the nation of England became more united.

3. The history of John's reign is a history of quarrels; John quarrelled with everybody and was always beaten. His next quarrel was with the Pope. The question was, Who should be Archbishop of Canterbury? This was an important question, for the Archbishop of Canterbury was the head of all the bishops and priests and all members of the Church in England. John wished to choose one man and the Pope claimed the right to choose another. Since John would not submit, the Pope 'ex-communicated' him; he declared him to be no longer a member of the Christian Church, and he called on the King of France to take away his crown. Philip was very willing to do this, but John yielded to the Pope, and obtained peace from him on very hard terms. He had to acknowledge himself the subject of the Pope and pay him a yearly tribute. Thus for the second time a King of England quarrelled with the priests and was beaten by them.

4. *John's third quarrel was with his own subjects.* His bad government and his failures made everyone his enemy, and the people of England at last resolved that they would have better government and a larger share in it themselves. We may truly say, 'the people' resolved on this, for every class of people now agreed to face John together.

Barons, bishops, priests and common people all joined against him, and he on his side had only foreign soldiers whom he paid to support him. He was forced to obey his subjects and to grant them the Magna Charta. This is the Latin for 'a great sheet of paper,' but the word 'Charta' is generally used of a sheet of paper which contains a grant of rights from the Sovereign to his subjects. The rights granted by John were very many, and here we can only look at the chief of them.

- (1) No man shall be imprisoned except in accordance with the law, and after he has been found guilty by a jury.
- (II) No fresh taxes shall be raised without the consent of the great Council of Barons.

5. John signed this charter in a meadow by the Thames, not far from his castle of Windsor. He signed it, but he did not mean to keep it, and when the meeting broke up he brought together an army of foreign troops and made war on the barons. Soon after he died. The Charter however lived on. Not every king who followed John observed it, but it was always remembered, and at last, many hundreds of years afterwards, almost all of it became the fixed law of England. 121

HENRY III. 1216 to 1272.

6. Henry III. was a good man but a weak king ; he could not keep the great nobles in order, and he was fighting them almost all his reign. For many years he was indeed a subject rather than a king, and a Council of Barons ruled the country. At last his son Edward defeated the barons, and Henry in his old age enjoyed a few years of peace.

7. It was in his reign that a great change in the Government of England took place. We have seen the Council of Barons mentioned in the Magna Charta. This was like the Witan-gemoot of Saxon times. The barons all went to it in person, along with the bishops of the church. Now, when the Council of Barons ruled the country, during the reign of Henry, they invited the towns and counties of England to send members to join them in talking over public affairs. It was the leader of the barons who brought this about, Simon de Montfort, Earl of Leicester. Though he was an unruly subject of the king he was a friend of England, and he saw that the only way to have a strong government in the country was to bring together all classes in support of it. The new body which he created was called a 'Parliament'. This is a Norman-French word which means a body of men who talk things over.

Ellis lib homo qd dicitur in p n b r a d u e d i s s o l a t u r a u t u n d a c t

ut exulet i ut d i g n e m o d o d e s t i t u t i o n e s e p e c u m i b n o i s n l i p

u n u n d e m e s t p l e x i l e m d u n t p u e s e n t i t p l e x i l e r i e

El i s t e d e m e s t n t i n e x t h i m i d u n t e n n e m d e r e n d u n t

FACSIMILE EXTRACT FROM MAGNA CHARTA



BISHOP OF THE 14TH CENTURY



Sep 30

GREAT SEAL OF EDWARD I

OBVERSE



REVERSE

8. The great Charter — Magna Charta — was called 'great' to distinguish it from the other charters which the kings of England granted to their subjects. Many charters were granted to towns, like London, giving them the right to govern themselves.

9. The battle in which the barons were defeated by Edward was fought at Evesham. Simon de Montfort was killed fighting there. 1265.

CHAPTER VIII.

EDWARD I. 1272 TO 1307.

1. The name of Edward I. is one to be remembered along with that of Henry II.; it is the name of one of the best and greatest of English kings. We may admire him both as a man and as a king. He was very brave and one of the chief soldiers of his age, he was also truthful and pious. He had the good fortune to marry a virtuous and faithful wife and he made her a devoted husband. As a king he worked very hard for the good of his country, and we shall see what England owes to him.

2. The wish of his heart was to make England a united country. He looked back on the bad reigns of the past,—about which we have not said much in this history,—and he saw that trouble had come on the country in two ways —

- (I) The great barons were always ready to rebel and disturb the peace of the nation.
- (II) The king did not do enough to protect the common people. Yet, if the country were to grow richer and more prosperous these were the people who should be protected. They would then be good friends of the king and help him to govern.

3. Accordingly, though Edward I. had fought against Simon de Montfort, he followed his example in calling together a Parliament of the whole people. Each town sent there 'representatives' to represent it, and these sat, with the representatives of the counties, in the House of Commons. The great barons and the bishops sat in the House of Lords. Edward I. began this arrangement, which has lasted ever since.

4. At the time of the Norman conquest the king gave estates of land to the barons, on condition that they should bring soldiers to help him if he needed them. In this way the king depended on the barons for soldiers, and if the barons gave him trouble, he found it hard to fight against them. But Edward I. ordered that every freeman in the country should provide himself with arms and fight for the king if the king needed him. And he encouraged the freemen to learn how to shoot with the long bow, by means of which great victories were won for England not long afterwards.

5. Edward I. acknowledged the Great Charter which John had granted, and he made many improvements in the law of England. We must understand that at this time the laws were really made by the king. The new Houses of Parliament gave the king advice, but it was he who made the laws

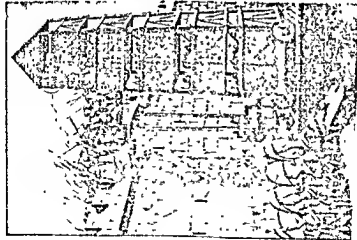
One law which he made forbade any one to leave land to religious bodies, such as monasteries. Edward I. thought they were growing too powerful. The clergy did not like this law, but Edward was too strong for them and they had to submit. Henry II. had been beaten by the priests and John had done homage to the Pope, but those days were past; the Pope and the clergy had now lost their power in England, and they never recovered it.

6. Though Edward was a great maker of laws, he was a soldier too, and much of his life was spent in fighting. He joined one of the Crusades when he was a young man. Later on he had many wars at home with Wales and Scotland.

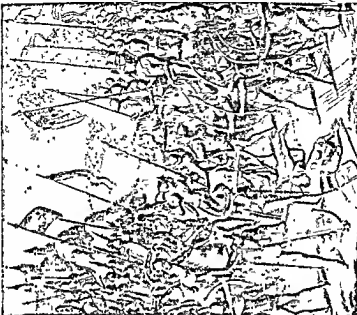
7. We have seen that the Britons of the West were never conquered by the Saxons; they lived among their mountains in freedom. The Saxons gave them the name of Welsh, which means 'foreigners'. They were not united into a kingdom but were governed by many small princes. After the Norman conquest of England some of the Norman barons seized part of Wales, and built themselves castles there. The Welsh princes could only save themselves by asking the king to protect them, and in return for this they had to acknowledge him as their ruler. In the reign of Edward I., however, a Welsh prince named Llewellyn tried



- 1 ENGLISH ARCHER WITH LONG BOW [See p 5]
- 2 GENOESE CROSSBOWMAN
- 3 TOURNAMENT AT CALAIS 1416



BESIEGING A TOWN BY MEANS OF
A MOVEABLE TOWER.



THE BATTLE OF CRECY.
SHOWING ENGLISH ARCHERS AND
MAIL-CLAD FRENCH KNIGHTS.

to make himself king of Wales, and fought a long war against Edward. In the end he was killed, and Wales became altogether a part of Edward's dominions. To show his respect for the Welsh and to please them Edward called his eldest son Prince of Wales, and the eldest son of the English king has held that title ever since. From that time there has been very little fighting between England and Wales.

8. How fortunate it would have been for the island if England and Scotland could have been united too! We have seen that the people of the north of Scotland were the Gaels, a people like the old Britons, who lived in their wild mountains unconquered by the Romans and the Saxons. They too, like the Welsh, were ruled by many princes, but, before the Norman Conquest, they became united under a king. This king ruled over the Gaels of the North,—the Highlanders, as we often call them,—and many Saxons in the Lowlands, who spoke the same language as the Saxons in England. At the time of the Conquest the King of Scotland acknowledged William as his lord and was left alone by him. After this many Norman barons entered Scotland, and became friends of the Scotch king, who gave them estates there. Once or twice there were wars between England and

Scotland, but the two countries on the whole were friendly to each other till the reign of Edward I.

- 9 Edward wished to see them united, but he did not interfere with Scotland till the Scotch asked him to do so. The Scottish king died; more than one of his family claimed the Crown and Edward was asked to decide between them. He did so, but after this the King of Scotland whom he chose quarrelled with him, and Edward then made himself king of the country. The Scotch were indignant at this and they rose in revolt against him. Their leader was William Wallace; he fell on the English with the utmost fury, slaughtering men, women and children, and he drove them for a time from Scotland. Edward, however, entered the country with a large army, defeated Wallace at Falkirk and after some time captured and put him to death.

10 Soon however the Scotch found another leader in Robert Bruce, and the country rose again. Edward marched north once more to subdue it, but he was now an old man, and he died before he reached Scotland.

EDWARD II. 1307 TO 1327.

11. Once more we see a great father followed by a weak and foolish son. Edward I gave his son the best education that could be given in that age,

but the son did not benefit by it. He received from his father a strong, united and prosperous country, and yet his reign is full of shame and failure.

12. After some delay he gathered together a great army and invaded Scotland to put down Bruce's rebellion. By this time Bruce was master of the country; the Scotch were proud of him and fought for him with a good will. He waited for the English army at Bannockburn. Most of his soldiers were armed with pikes and spears and fought on foot, while the English depended on their knights, who were clad in mail and fought on horseback. Bruce gathered together his men in dense bodies and waited for the English to charge them. The English knights accepted his challenge, but they could not break the lines of the Scotch and at last they turned and fled. From this time Scotland remained an independent kingdom, and there was a great feeling of bitterness between her and England. Long and bloody wars were fought, which brought no good to either country.

13. As for Edward II. the rest of his reign was passed in quarrels with his barons, who at last rose up and seized and murdered him.

14. During his reign the House of Commons continued to increase its power, and it forced him to agree that the king should make no new laws

for the country without its consent. The kings who followed Edward II. kept this agreement till everything was changed by the Wars of the Roses.

15 The two claimants to the Scottish Crown in Edward I.'s reign were Balliol and Bruce; Edward chose Balliol. The Bruce who rose against him at the end of his reign was a grandson of this Bruce.

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1. EDWARD THE BLACK PRINCE, SHOWING PLATE ARMOUR
OF THE 14TH CENTURY
2. COMPLETE SUIT OF GOTHIC ARMOUR, WORN ABOUT
THE MIDDLE OF THE 15TH CENTURY



ENGLISH DOMINIONS IN FRANCE AT THE TIME OF THE TREATY OF BREIGNY, 1360.

CHAPTER IX.

EDWARD III. 1327 TO 1377.

1. Edward III. was not a wise ruler like Edward I. but we have good reason to remember his name, 'for he was a great soldier and a great general, and under him the arms of England won many famous victories.

2. One of these was won against the Scotch, but Edward III. did not try to reconquer Scotland; he began a war with France. This war is called the Hundred Years' War; and the name is correct, because, though there were some periods of peace, the two nations were almost always fighting for a hundred years. It was a useless war, from which neither country gained anything—not even a little wisdom.

3. We have seen that in the reign of John the king of England lost all his French possessions. Unfortunately Henry III. got a little back along with his wife, and this made the French king his enemy. The French king, accordingly, helped the Scotch in their war with England, and this made the English angry in their turn. At last Edward III. found a chance to claim that he was

the heir to the French crown. His claim was a bad one, but the whole nation was anxious to fight the French and war began. The English invaded France.

1346. 4. The first great battle was the battle of Crecy. The French were much more numerous than the English but the English were better soldiers. King Edward I had encouraged all the freemen of England to learn the use of the bow, and the bow had become the great English weapon. It was a long bow of wood, as long as a man is tall; and the arrows it shot were a good yard long. A strong man could shoot three hundred yards with it, and he could shoot fast and aim well. There were no such archers in Europe as the English archers, and many a time they overthrew the spearmen of Scotland. At Crecy they overthrew the mail-clad knights of France, who tried in vain to ride through their cloud of arrows.

1356. 5. After this victory, Edward left behind him his son in France, who ruled over the south-west of the country and held his court at Bordeaux. Many years he ruled there and he won a great victory over the French at Poitiers, where the French king was made prisoner. He was called the Black Prince, perhaps because he preferred to wear black armour in battle. He was one of the greatest

soldiers of the age. At last a treaty was made, called the Treaty of Bretigny, by which the English were to have the south-western part of France. 1360.

6. Yet, before Edward III. died, he gradually lost the land he had won in France. The Black Prince died; the English soldiers were gradually killed, and by the end of the reign the English had little left except the town of Calais. Thus the glory of Crecy ended in shame. 1377.

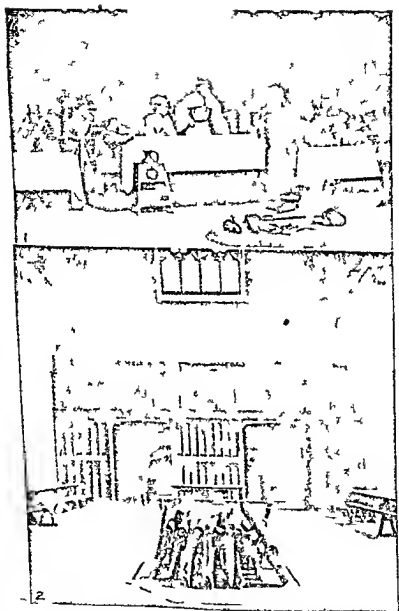
7. We have now to see how trouble of another kind, even worse, overtook the country. By the name of 'the Black Death' is known to us a great plague which visited Europe in the reign of Edward III. It killed millions of people throughout Europe, and by some accounts it carried off half the people of England. Their number was then probably about 4,000,000, and 2,000,000 of them seem to have died. Probably the disease was something like the plague that has visited India in our own times. The doctors could do nothing to treat it, and they did not know how to prevent it from spreading. Both the towns and the houses were very crowded and dirty, and it is in crowded dirty places that all kinds of diseases do most mischief. The Black Death caused a great deal of misery in England, and in many ways it changed the life of the country. 1348.

8. The chief batt'e in the war with Scotland
[333. was Halidon Hill.

9 Edward III larded in Normandy, which now belonged to the French kinz, and marched towards Paris plundering the cuntry. Then he turned North towards Calais, and the French army crossed his path to cut him off. They met at Crecy.

10 The English long bow was made of the wood of the yew tree, which is like the cypress of India. For many hundreds of years these trees were carefully grown in England, and all the villagers used to practise with their bows every Sunday.

11 The parts of France yielded by the Treaty of Brelligny were Aquitaine and Gascony. Normandy was left to the French King, but the English kept Calais.



See p

1. WHITTINGTON'S BANQUET ABOUT 1400 A.D.]
FROM THE PICTURE BY W. G. WYNFIELD
2. INTERIOR OF HALL AT PENSURST, KENT
[ABOUT 1341-1392 A.D.]



See p. 48.

- 1 COSTUMES OF THE 14TH CENTURY [BARON, LADY, GENTLEMAN, PEASANT, SOLDIER, PEASANT WOMAN]
- 2 COURT COSTUMES TIME OF RICHARD II.

CHAPTER X.

THE MIDDLE AGES.

THE LIFE OF THE PEOPLE.

1. The times of which we are now speaking are called the Middle Ages of Europe. The times before them are sometimes called the Dark Ages, when Saxons, Danes and Normans were plundering Europe everywhere. There had been many changes since these Dark Ages. What were these changes and what were the causes of them?

About 1200

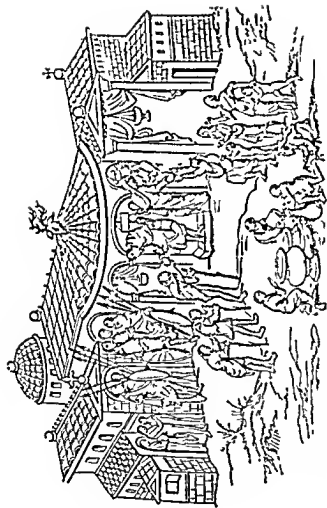
2. Life was more settled everywhere. There were many wars in the Middle Ages, but we do not hear any longer of whole races, like the Saxons, wandering about and living by plunder.

3. As life grew more settled, the conditions of life were improved. We have seen that the monks in the monasteries helped to bring this about. Strange to say, the wars of the Crusades also helped. The Crusaders saw better furniture in the East, beautiful carpets, for instance, and the people of Europe began to trade with the East for these. So too the spices of India made their way to Europe, and every one was very glad of them, for the food even of the rich was hard and coarse.

4 The houses of the poor were still miserable little huts, but the barons were better off in their castles. Even they were content with very few and simple pieces of furniture. Their plates and basins were of wood, and they ate their meals chiefly with their fingers. Clothes were chiefly made of wool, the rich had under-clothes of linen, the poor often wore coats and breeches of leather.

5 We have seen that the little Saxon settlements used to hold their land in common, while after the Conquest the land was generally given to a Norman lord, who became the owner of it. Most of the Saxons still continued to cultivate the land, but each had to hand over a part of the produce to the lord. Such men were still called 'freemen' and were not badly off, but others lost their right to a share in the land and became slaves or serfs. Thus there were living together side by side the lord, the freemen and the serfs, and each settlement of this kind was called a manor. All through the Middle Ages England was divided into manors.

6 But changes were going on. In the first place, many of the serfs gained their freedom. The Christian religion does not approve of slavery, and the priests often persuaded the masters of the serfs to set them free.



See p 43

A MANOR-HOUSE OF THE 11TH CENTURY.



PLOUGHING WITH OXEN.

ABOUT THE MIDDLE OF THE 14TH CENTURY. FROM THE LUTTRELL PSALTER

7. The use of money became more general. At first the freemen used to give the lord a share of their corn or their cattle, and they used to pay their smith or their weaver in articles of some kind. As time went on, however, money became more plentiful and people preferred to use it.

8. We come now to the Black Death. This carried away, as we have seen, half the people of England and it made a very great change in the country. There were not enough men to till the fields, and all the lords, great and small, found that their income was cut off. So they began to offer wages to any one who would come and work for them, and these wages soon became very high. Many serfs ran away from their masters, and then Parliament made laws to bring them back and force them to work for lower wages. In spite of this however the old manors fell to pieces, and the lords began, as we shall see, to use their land differently.

9. The towns of England at this time were very small, and most of them were crowded behind strong walls. The houses were small, and dark inside, the streets narrow; there were no pavements and there was no drainage. Yet the towns were growing stronger and richer every day; many of

them got *charters* from the king, which gave them the right to govern themselves, instead of being governed by the lord on whose land they were built. London was the largest and strongest town, and the chief centre of trade.

10 The article in which England then traded was chiefly wool. The cool moist climate of England is good for sheep, and there was a great demand in Europe for English wool. The English themselves were not skilful in weaving and most of their wool was sent abroad, to Flanders to be made into cloth. It was carried in English ships, and the sailors were strong hardy men who could fight not only the waves of the sea but pirates and foreign enemies. In the reign of Edward III they won a great victory over the French at Sluys and quite destroyed the French fleet.

11. In religion, as we have seen, the English of those days were Christians, and like the rest of Europe they acknowledged as their head the Bishop of Rome, the Pope. We have also seen how powerful the Pope was, with the clergy of the Church under him. But a change was now beginning.

(1) The kings of England did not want the Pope to be so powerful, and as the king himself grew stronger he was better able to resist him. Edward I. made a law that no one should leave any more land



JOHN WYCLIFFE.



to religious bodies, and after this other laws were passed which made the power of the clergy weaker.

(11) The Pope offended the common people of England by sending them too many foreigners as priests and taking away too much money from them. Thus many of them grew unfriendly to the Pope and even to the priests of the Church

12. Accordingly, some were ready to listen to the preaching of John Wycliffe, who began to make himself heard in the reign of Edward III. Wycliffe was himself a priest, but he complained that too many of the priests were rich and idle, that religion was not made simple enough for common people to understand it, and they were not taught in their own language. The language used in the services of the Church was Latin; most of the books about religion were in Latin; and the Bible itself could hardly be found except in a Latin translation. Wycliffe accordingly made a new English translation of it, and he sent abroad through England a band of 'poor priests' to preach to the people in English. Some of their teaching was new and unwelcome to the Pope and Bishops of the Church, and soon after Wycliffe died laws were passed by which his followers were punished with being burned alive. There were not very many of them, and this persecution put an end to the spread of Wycliffe's teaching.

13 Wycliffe wrote for the common people in English, but English was now the language of almost every one in England. The great nobles of the king's court still spoke French, but English was now the language of Parliament, of the courts of law and of trade. It became also the language of the best books. While Wycliffe was making his translation of the Bible, Geoffrey Chaucer was writing the first great poem in English. It is called *The Canterbury Tales*. It tells us how a party of pilgrims went to Canterbury to visit the tomb of Thomas Becket—now Saint Thomas Becket, and how they amused themselves on the road by telling tales to each other. Amongst the pilgrims there was a man or woman of every rank, a knight, a priest, a merchant and many others. Chaucer tells us all about them, and his poem is one of the sources of old English history, like Alfred's Chronicle or William's Domesday Book.

14. The schools of the Middle Ages were all kept by the priests or the monks. What the boys learned in them was chiefly Latin, and most of the boys who went to school became priests themselves in later years. The sons of the nobles did not generally go to school. They were sent by their fathers as little boys to live in the castles of other nobles and they were brought up away from home. It was thought that in this way they

would learn to be hardier. They were taught good manners, and the use of arms, and simple reading. They were called pages; when they grew older they became squires; they accompanied knights to war and fought under them and helped them. Afterwards when they deserved it they were made knights themselves.

CHAPTER XI

THE HOUSE OF LANCASTER

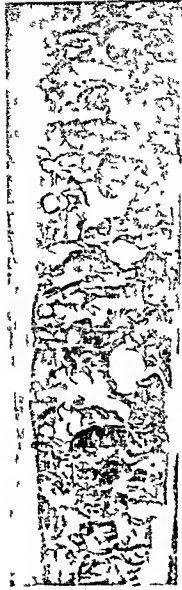
HENRY IV 1399 TO 1413

1. It was a deed of bloodshed which brought Henry IV. on the throne. He was a grandson of Edward III, being the son of the Duke of Lancaster, Edward's fourth son. The king who succeeded Edward was Richard II, another grandson and the rightful heir to the throne. But, once more, a strong king had a weak and foolish son, and Richard II after an unsuccessful reign was dethroned and murdered by his subjects. At their head was Henry IV, who declared himself king "through the right which God had given him by conquest." Parliament supported him and he began his reign.

2. It was a reign much troubled by domestic war. Henry had gained his crown by rebellion and many of his subjects in turn rebelled against him. Especially he had to fight long against a Welsh rising led by Owen Glendower. It took Henry many years to beat him down, for he was a brave and skillful soldier. The Scotch also invaded England, and Percy the Earl of Northumberland



GEOFFREY CHAUCER.



THE CANTERBURY PILGRIMS

AFTER THE PAINTING BY THOMAS STODHARD R. A. IN THE NATIONAL GALLERY

rose up in arms. The whole of the reign was occupied in fighting and subduing these enemies.

3. While this was going on the House of Commons kept the powers it had gained. It was now a fixed rule that the King should raise no new taxes without its consent, and the Commons insisted that they would not give him any money till he listened to any complaints they had to make.

HENRY V. 1413 to 1422.

4. When Henry IV. died he left to his son Henry V. a strong and united kingdom. Henry V. proved himself a good ruler of this; he did not interfere with the powers of the Parliament, and he made himself no enemies at home. He was a pious man and a friend of religion; it is sad to find however that he considered the followers of Wycliffe enemies of religion and in his time the last of them were burned to death.

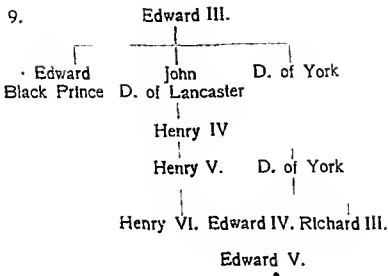
5. Henry had been a vallant soldier in his youth and fought well for his father against the Welsh and Scotch; after his accession he soon turned his thoughts against the French. We have seen that after the death of Edward III. the English lost almost everything in France except the town of Calais. They were ashamed of this loss, and they were angry because the French were always

helping the Scotch against them. Moreover the French themselves had now divided into two parties, and one of these, which followed the Duke of Burgundy, was friendly to the English, and would have been willing to see Henry King of France.

6. So Henry gathered together an army and invaded France, landing in Normandy, near Harfleur. He took this town and then marched north towards Calais. On his way he found the French waiting for him near Agincourt, with an army much larger than his own. *Once more, however, the English archers gained the victory for England, and the French were beaten with great loss of men.

7. After this a treaty was made placing the north of France under Henry, while it was agreed that after the king of France died he should be king of the whole country. The Burgundians were quite pleased with this, but the rest of the French nation were not so ready to see an Englishman on the throne of their country. So Henry had to enter France and fight again, and while he was busy in this war he suddenly died.

8. What would have happened if he had lived? We cannot say, but it does not seem likely that England and France would have continued long under the same sovereign.



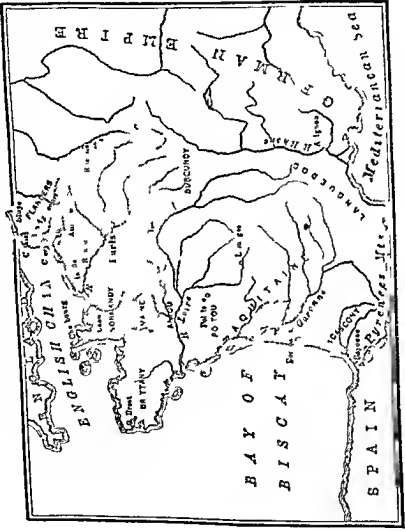
CHAPTER XII.

HENRY VI 1422 to 1461.

1. Henry V. at his death left a little son behind, who lived through a long and very unhappy reign. He was not a bad man, for he was both kind and pious, and he built one of the chief schools and one of the chief colleges of England. But he had not the iron will which was needed in that wild age, his brain was feeble and over-study and suffering at last drove him mad.

2 The first event of his reign was the loss of his French possessions. It is true that the English generals in France at first gained some victories over the French and it seemed as if the French crown would be saved for the child. The English were even besieging Orleans, which was the chief town that held out against them, and it seemed likely they would take it. But just at that moment one of the strangest things in the history of the world happened.

3. Far away in the East of France there was a little peasant girl of thirteen years of age, who looked with horror on the sufferings which the long war had brought on her country. Her name was Joan of Arc. As she sat and watched her



FRENCH TERRITORY HELD BY THE ENGLISH WHEN
JOAN OF ARC APPEARED 1429



JOAN OF ARC.

FROM THE PAINTING BY INGRES IN THE LOUVRE, PARIS.

sheep she thought she heard voices calling her to rise and lead the armies of her country to victory and crown the king of France at Rheims. The king was named Charles, and he had not yet been crowned, for Rheims, where all the French kings before him had been crowned, belonged to the English. Joan listened to the voices, and she saw visions of the saints encouraging her, and at last she went to Charles and told her tale to him. He allowed her to lead some of his soldiers, and with Joan at their head they defeated the English and drove them away from the siege of Orleans. She then took Charles to Rheims and crowned him. 1429 After this, however, though she went on fighting, she was unfortunate, and she was captured by the English and Burgundians, and tried, and burned to death as a witch. This is one of the saddest events in the history of England and France. Joan was in truth a simple, innocent and heroic girl, English people have long honoured her name and the Pope has declared her a saint.

4 After her death the English gradually lost their possessions in France till once more they had nothing left but Calais. Thus ends the Hundred Years' War. England and France have often fought since then, but the English kings have never ruled over any part of France.

5. If the English were to blame for attacking France, we shall now see that they were punished for this. Many classes of people in England began to love war more than peace, and they grew fit for nothing but fighting. The great nobles became even more quarrelsome and selfish than before, and they gathered round them bands of soldiers who were never content with peace. When these nobles and their soldiers were driven out of France they began a long war in England which changed the course of English history.

6. The first cause of this war was the ambition of the Duke of York. He was a cousin of the King and he had hopes that the King would die without children and he or his son would reach the throne. In this, however, he was disappointed. Henry married a wife, Margaret of Anjou, who bore him a son named Edward. On this York rose in arms against the King. The wars that followed are called the Wars of the Roses, because the followers of the Duke of York chose a white rose for their sign, while a red rose became that of the King's side. The King's grandfather, Henry IV., had been Duke of Lancaster, so his followers were called Lancastrians, the others Yorkists.

7. There were three periods of the war:—

(1) The Duke of York defeated the King's 1455-
army; and he became Protector of the country, 1460.
with Henry as King.

(2) Henry's wife Margaret, a fierce and active 1460-
woman, very unlike her husband, refused to endure 1461.
this. She gathered a Lancastrian army and defeat-
ed and slew the Duke of York.

(3) The son of the dead Duke, named Edward, 1461-
took the lead of his father's friends and in his turn 1464.
overthrew Margaret. The chief battle which he
won was named Towton. In another battle the
son of Henry was captured and murdered and
the unhappy king was murdered himself. 1471.

8. Thus, for the time, the Wars of the Roses
ended. Though many fierce battles had taken place
the country was not so much injured as a country
is generally injured by civil war. The common
people did not join either side, nor the people of
the towns. They went on with their work, tilling
the fields and trading and fortunately the soldiers
did not plunder them. It was the old nobility who
lost most by the war. Many of the noble families
were quite destroyed, and the power of the great
barons was lost for ever.

9.— The school which Henry VI built is Eton and the college King's College, Cambridge.

10. The chief battles of the Wars of the Roses were :—

1455 St Albans. The Yorkists won and took Henry VI. prisoner.

1460 Wakefield. The Lancastrians won; the Duke of York killed

1461. Towton. Defeat of the Lancastrians.

1471. Tewkesbury. Defeat of the Lancastrians.
Henry's son Edward taken
and killed.

11. The sovereigns of the House of Lancaster were Henry IV, Henry V, and Henry VI.

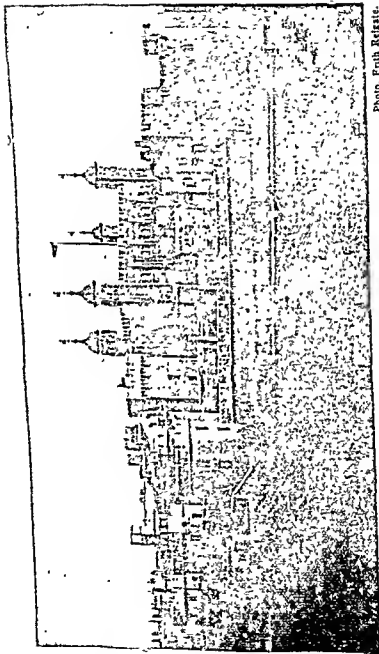


Photo. Frith Reigate.

THE TOWER OF LONDON.



THE LITTLE PRINCES IN THE TOWER.
FROM THE PAINTING BY PAUL DELAROCHE.

CHAPTER XIII.

THE HOUSE OF YORK.

EDWARD IV. 1461 TO 1483.

1. Edward IV. reigned as king for many years, and when he died he left behind him two little sons, who were mere children. He appointed his brother, Richard, Protector of the country, till his son should grow up. Richard was a cruel and ambitious man, and he put to death these two children and made himself king. But the heart of the English people was stirred by this murder of the 'Babes in the tower,' and Richard became hated by the whole nation. There was a rebellion against him headed by the Duke of Richmond, Henry Tudor. Richard was defeated and killed at Bosworth, and Henry became king as Henry VII.

2. This Henry Tudor on his mother's side belonged to the House of Lancaster, and thus the House of Lancaster, won back the crown. The name Tudor, however, is Welsh; the father of Henry Tudor was a Welshman. So we see that the king of England to-day is still partly a Welshman; just as we saw before now that he is partly a Saxon.

3. The sovereigns of the House of York were Edward IV., Edward V., and Richard III.

CHAPTER XIV.

THE REFORMATION. THE RENAISSANCE.

1. The age to which we are now coming was an age of many great changes not only in England but through Europe and the world. Before we begin the reign of Henry VII. we must give some account of these changes, for the history of England will be connected more closely with the history of Europe than it has been up till now. England did not take much part in the Crusades, and after the French wars were finished the long civil wars kept English people busy at home. This will now be changed.

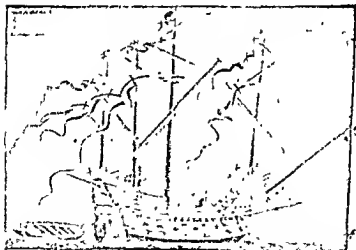
2 The whole continent of Europe now leaves behind the Middle Ages and moves forward towards modern times. Let us consider the reasons for this.

(1) Men begin to find out that the world is much larger than they supposed. Vasco di Gama sails round the Cape of Good Hope to India. Columbus discovers America, and gradually men find that they have here a new world as large as the old world. Thoughts of conquest begin to stir in their hearts; a new race of adventurers succeeds the knights of the Middle Ages.



CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS.

IN THE METROPOLITAN MUSEUM OF ART, NEW YORK.



[See p. 74]

THE SHIP "HARRY GRACE A DIEU."

ONE OF THE EARLIEST OF MODERN WARSHIPS BUILT BY HENRY VII.
FROM A DRAWING IN THE PEPPISIAN LIBRARY AT CAMBRIDGE.

(II) The art of war is changed by the invention of gunpowder. There were muskets and cannon already in use during the Wars of the Roses. These weapons make the armour of the old barons useless; the foot-soldier becomes more important than the knight on horseback.

(III) Printed books make their appearance. More than one inventor had a hand in the discovery of printing, but all of them were Germans. The art was brought to England by William Caxton, who set up a press there in the reign of Edward IV.

3. From these and other causes came two great results:—

(1) The old barons lost their power; all over Europe the chief power in the state passed to the kings. The kings of England and France and Germany all governed their countries as they pleased; they became *absolute* monarchs.

(II) Throughout a large part of Europe the Pope and the priests lost their power and a great part of the Christian Church refused to be subject to the Pope. This movement is called the Reformation of religion, and those who left the Pope are called Protestants.

4. We have seen already that there had been a movement against the Pope started in England by Wycliffe. This died out, but a much greater movement was started in Germany by Martin Luther. He was himself a priest, but he was not satisfied with the lives of the priests or their teaching or the government of the Church by the Pope. He thought the priests were often too rich, or idle and dishonest. He thought there were too many ceremonies connected with religion, which, instead of helping men to draw near to God, kept them away from Him. In many ways also he thought the teaching of the Pope false.

5. Accordingly, he called for many changes in religion:—

- (I) Let every one, he said, be guided solely by what he finds in the Bible.
- (II) Let every one read the Bible for himself and make up his own mind about what he finds in it.
- (III) The Pope has no right to govern the Church and all priests have too much power. The priest should be only a 'minister' or servant of the people who helps them to understand the Bible.

We notice that Luther and the Protestants after him thought it essential that every one should read



KING EDWARD IV VISITING CAXTON'S PRINTING OFFICE AT WESTMINSTER.

FROM THE PAINTING BY DANIEL MACLISE R.A.

Greendeth the booke named the dictes or sayengis
 of the philosophes enprynted . by me William
 Caxton at Westmestre the yere of our lordy + m.
 CCCC + Lxxviii. Whiche booke is late translat

See p. 63

LINES FROM A BOOK PRINTED BY CAXTON.



MARTIN LUTHER.

FROM THE PORTRAIT BY CRANACH DRESDEN GALLERY.

the Bible, and thus we see how the art of printing helped the Reformation by making Bibles cheap and common.

6. Was Luther wrong or right? People do not agree about this, and never will agree. But it is certain that much was wrong in the Church, and there were some things which the Pope afterwards reformed in the Church himself. Luther however did not wait for this, and indeed it would not have satisfied him; he left the Church, and brought about a different kind of 'Reformation.' His followers were called 'Protestants,' because they protested against the rule and teaching of the Pope. Those who stayed with the Pope called themselves 'Catholics'; Protestants called them the Roman Church. Often they are called by the two names together, 'Roman Catholics'

7. On the whole, the North of Europe, the German countries, went with Luther, while Italy, France and Spain stayed with the Pope. But before it was settled how far the Reformation would go, there were a hundred years of the most dreadful war in Europe. England was saved from this—largely because she was an island,—though more than once she was nearly drawn into it.

8. We have still to mention another great change of the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries, a change, which brought back to the world the old

books of Greece and Rome. We have seen how the history of England began with the appearance of Roman civilization and how the Roman empire fell and Roman civilization disappeared. After this, not in England alone but all through Europe, the great books of the Greeks and the Romans were forgotten. The priests of the Church used Latin in their services but it was bad Latin, unlike the Latin of the great Roman writers. About 1115, however, men began to read the old Greek and Latin books again. One reason for this was the conquest of 1453. Constantinople by the Turks. The Greek language had always been spoken there, and there were many Greek and Latin manuscripts there. When Constantinople fell her scholars began to travel through Europe, taking these manuscripts with them. Learned people began to read them, and they found with delight what beautiful poems and histories the old Greeks and Romans had written. It was like discovering a new world, such as Columbus discovered in America. All over Europe these books were read both by Catholics and Protestants; they were also taught in the schools. This movement is called the Renaissance, or New Birth. What was born again was not only a love of the old books but a love of the old buildings, of the Greeks and Romans, and from this time onwards the Gothic buildings of the Middle Ages disappear.

9. The word 'Catholic' means 'containing all,' and the Pope and his followers call their Church Catholic because they consider it contains all true Christians. Now the Protestants consider they are themselves true Christians, though they are not members of the Pope's Church, so they are not willing to call it 'Catholic.' They prefer to call it Roman, because it is governed by the Pope, or Bishop of Rome.

10. The name 'Gothic' was given to the buildings of the Middle Ages because it was once thought a people called the Goths had first made buildings of this kind. This was a mistake, but we still use the name. The first great builders of the Middle Ages were the Normans. For the door and windows of their buildings they used round arches; afterwards later builders used pointed arches. Buildings with these pointed arches are called 'Gothic.'

CHAPTER XV.

THE HOUSE OF TUDOR.

HENRY VII. 1485 to 1509.

1. Henry VII., like Henry IV., was a usurper, but he was a good king. He did his best to make friends with the Yorkists, and he married the daughter of Edward IV. He had little trouble from rebellions, for the barons were exhausted by the long war. His chief enemy was a man named Warbeck, who pretended to be the Duke of York, Edward's son, whom Richard III. had murdered. He found friends in Ireland. At last, however, Henry caught him and put him to death.

2. Henry VII. was a friend of trade, and he sent out John Cabot to take part in the exploration of America. Cabot went to Newfoundland and afterwards the English fishermen went there to fish for cod. This brought a good deal of money to England, especially to the South-West of the country.

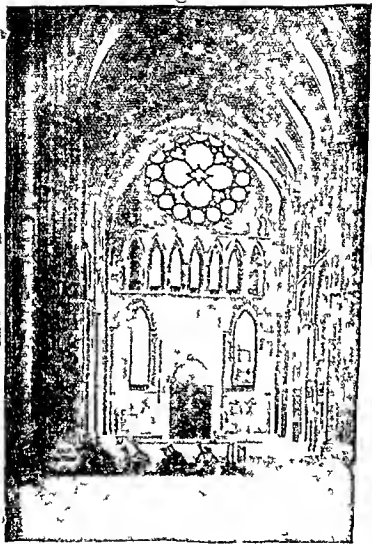
HENRY VIII. 1509 to 1547.

3. Henry VIII. was a young man when he came to the throne, a clever open-handed young



See p 69

ST JOHN'S CHAPEL IN THE TOWER OF LONDON.
SHOWING ROUND NORMAN ARCHES



LINCOLN CATHEDRAL NORTH TRANSEPT
 SHOWING POINTED GOTHIC ARCHES

man. He spent his father's treasures freely and soon became popular, but time showed him to be selfish and cruel. His strong will and his ability made him successful, but as a man he was without doubt the worst of English kings.

4. Let us begin however by seeing how much good can be said for him :—

(1) He was a strong king, like his father, and he kept the country at peace.

(2) It was under him that England began to be a Protestant country. Roman Catholics of course will not agree that this was a good thing for England, but almost all the people of England are still Protestants and think differently.

5 We cannot say however that Henry VIII. became a Protestant because he thought this was the right religion; his quarrel with the Pope began in a different way. He had married when quite young Catharine of Arragon, the daughter of the King of Spain, and he had no son by her. Now it was very important that the King should have a son, for if he had died without an heir, there might have been another civil war, like the Wars of the Roses. Accordingly he wished to marry again, and he asked the Pope to declare that his marriage with Catharine was one not permitted to Christians and that she was not really his wife.

The Pope however found himself unable to take this view of Henry's marriage; there was no reason, he said, why it should not be considered a lawful marriage and the Church did not permit divorce. Henry was greatly angered by this, and at last he declared that the English Church was not subject to the Pope and that the English King was Head of the English Church. He then ordered the English Bishops to declare his marriage with Catharine illegal. They did so, and thus he thought himself free to marry again.

6. After this he seized the land and property of the monasteries in England and broke them up. Some of these monasteries no doubt were full of idle monks and deserved punishment, but this was not true of all of them, and Henry treated all the monks with great cruelty. Their land he gave away to his friends or kept for himself, their money he wasted on the amusements of his court.

7. All this time however Henry did not accept the religious teachings of Luther and did not allow his subjects to become Protestants like the Protestants of Germany. Some of them who did so he burned, just as he burned some of the Catholics who refused to acknowledge him as Head of the Church.

8. We may wonder why he was allowed to treat his subjects in this way, and why Parliament did not stop him; and we may answer:—

(1) The English people were not friendly to the Pope, who was always a foreigner and required them to send him a great deal of money. Thus they were not ready to fight their own King on behalf of the Pope.

(2) Henry's Government suited them in many ways. He did not allow the noblemen to make war on each other or oppress the common people; and he did not tax his subjects against their will. Once or twice he tried to do so, but he found they would not submit to this, so he left them alone. Parliament sometimes met, though not very often, and the king took any grant of money they chose to give him.

(3) Parliament was not so strong as it had been before the Civil wars. Even in the House of Commons many of the leaders had come from the great families of England and these great families had grown weaker in the war. So Parliament allowed the king to rule much as he pleased. It allowed him to imprison and to execute his enemies without trial, which Henry VIII. very often did. Towards the end of his reign he put to

•

death many of his great nobles simply because they displeased him.

513. 9. There was no war of importance in Henry's reign. The Scotch King was once foolish enough to invade England, and he was defeated and killed at Flodden. This was the bloodiest battle ever fought between Scotland and England. Henry did not however try to conquer Scotland. He thought more than once of invading France, but he was no soldier, and he contented himself with long intrigues against the King of France

10. There was one class of Henry's subjects who did not prosper during his reign, the poor working classes or labouring men of the country. We had seen that after the Black Death these men were well off, because wages rose. A labouring man was paid two shillings a week and he could find board and lodging for himself for eight pence. But great changes now took place —

(1) The owners of the land found more and more that it paid them better to keep sheep than to raise crops. English wool was still the best in Europe, and it fetched a high price. But sheep did not need many labourers to work after them, so when the land was given up to sheep many people were thrown out of work. Thus the 'manors' of the Middle Ages disappeared, and large sheep



HENRY VIII.

FROM THE PICTURE IN THE HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT.



Mansell

CARDINAL WOLSEY

FROM THE PORTRAIT IN THE NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY

farms took their place. Much of the old common land that had belonged to the freemen of the manors was swallowed up in these sheep farms.

(II) Henry made bad money for the country. After he had wasted his father's fortune and all the money he took from the monasteries he still wanted more, and he invented this plan of giving people bad money. He put only a third of the silver into the coins which was there before, and he made people take them as though they were the same. But though people had to take them from the king, they would not take them from each other, except at their real value; so every one charged three times as much for things as before. The wages of the poor, however, rose very slowly, so that the poor suffered most from this dishonesty of the king.

Altogether, a bad age for the poor now began, and there was much misery and crime amongst them. A wise and noble author, Sir Thomas More, wrote on their behalf, but Henry murdered him because he was a Catholic and would not call the king the Head of the Church.

11. Among the ministers of Henry two were important:—

(1) Thomas Wolsey. He was a priest of the Roman Church who was raised by Henry to high

power in the early years of his reign. He became a Bishop and even a Cardinal and he had hopes of becoming Pope. However, he did not help Henry to get rid of his wife Catharine, and Henry suddenly took away all his wealth and power. He died soon afterwards; partly, no doubt, of grief. He was the last priest of the Church who took a great part in governing England

(11) Thomas Cromwell. This was an old soldier, a cunning able fellow, who helped Henry to plunder the monasteries. He persuaded Henry to marry a woman whom Henry did not like, and the King punished him by cutting his head off.

12. Henry married six wives during his long reign, and two of them he beheaded, on the ground that they had been unfaithful to him. Three of his children lived after him, Mary, the daughter of Catharine, Elizabeth, and an only son Edward.

13. Henry VII did not allow the barons to keep soldiers of their own any longer and those who did so he fined. The Court before which they were tried was called the Star Chamber; the judges in it were appointed by the king.

14. Henry's wife Catharine had been first married to his brother, and after his brother's death was married to Henry. Now it was not usual

for a man to marry his dead brother's wife, and on this ground Henry asked the Pope to say that no marriage had really taken place between him and Catharine Bul, long ago, before the ceremony, the consent of the Pope had been asked for and obtained, so how could he change his opinion now?

15 Henry wished to be free from Catharine not only because she had no son but because he had met a beautiful young girl, Anne Boleyn, at his court, and he wished to marry her. In the end he did so. Anne Boleyn was a Protestant, and no doubt she helped to make Henry an enemy of the Pope. She had a daughter, Elizabeth, soon after her marriage with Henry, but he then grew weary of her and put her to death on a charge of adultery. His third wife (Jane Seymour) was the mother of his only son Edward.

16. The common people of England were almost all Catholics during the reign of Henry, though some of them became Protestants. Tyndall revived the work of Wycliffe, bringing out an improved English Bible. Henry himself approved of translation of the Bible into English, and ordered that there should be a copy of the translation in every church in England. When he destroyed the monasteries, however, there were several rebellions of the common people, especially in the

North of England. Of course they were too weak to resist the king's troops.

17 In the Church of Rome there is, as we saw, a Bishop in every district, who is the head of the priests and the people in that district. Some of these Bishops are given the title of Cardinal, which means that they have a vote at the election of the Pope. When a Pope dies, the Cardinals of the Roman Church meet from all parts of the world at Rome and choose another Pope.



Photo Valentine, Dundee

FOUNTAINS ABBEY, YORKSHIRE.
ONE OF THE MONASTERIES RUINED BY HENRY VIII.

See p 71.

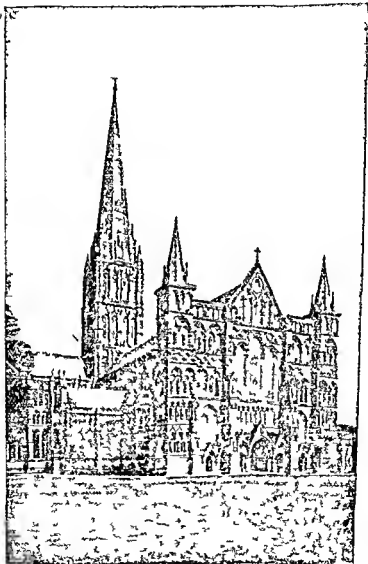


Photo Va ent ne Duodec.

SALISBURY CATHEDRAL, WEST FRONT

CHAPTER XVI.

EDWARD VI. 1547 to 1553.

1. Edward VI. was a boy of ten when he became king. He was a child very unlike his father, sickly in body, but truly religious in mind. Young as he was, he was a strong Protestant, and his ministers were Protestants, and Protestantism became the religion of England. The old services and ceremonies of the Roman Church were forbidden; the priests were allowed to marry; the use of the Bible was everywhere encouraged. A book of English prayers was written, which is still used in English churches; it is called the Book of Common Prayer. The use of Latin in churches was quite given up, in order that the common people might understand everything they heard. It cannot be said that the common people were all pleased with these changes. We have seen how in the country-districts they were growing poorer, and at the same time they had lost good friends in the monks or the monasteries, which in many parts of the country had kept free schools, and given medicine to the sick, besides employing labourers on their land. As in the reign of Henry VIII., there were rebellions of poor people

under Edward VI. which were put down with much cruelty.

2 Edward VI. soon died, and there was a great question who should succeed him. The rightful heir was evidently Mary, the daughter of Henry's first wife Catharine, but she was a strong Catholic and the Protestants were afraid of her. Some of them tried to make Lady Jane Grey Queen. This unfortunate lady was a relative of Henry VIII, who had really no claim to the crown. She was a pious gentle girl, who was forced by a few selfish friends to come forward, and she found no support. After a few days she was seized by the friends of Mary and put to death, and Mary became Queen.

MARY. 1553 to 1558

3. Mary was the first Queen who reigned in England, and her reign, indeed all her life, was very unhappy. Her mother Catharine had suffered much from Henry VIII. and her daughter suffered with her. But she always remained a strong Catholic, and at once, when she came to the throne, she determined to make England a Catholic country again. She gave back to the Pope and the priests the power they had lost, and brought back all the old ceremonies and teaching of the Church.*

4. Many of the people of England were quite willing to obey her in this, but others were not. England had now really become a Protestant country. When Mary forbade the Protestant forms of worship, many refused to obey her, and many were burned to death by her orders. Some of them were bishops, but most of them were humble simple people, working-men and shopkeepers. There was great anger and pity for these victims throughout England, and the country became more at heart Protestant than before.

5. Mary married Philip, the King of Spain. He was the strongest Catholic king in Europe, but it was an unfortunate marriage for Mary. He was a foreigner and a cruel stern man, and he was much disliked in England. She had no child by him and both she and her husband were greatly disappointed. Towards the end of her life another blow fell upon her. The French seized the town of Calais, which was the last possession of England in France, and its loss was felt by Mary as a great humiliation.

6. The friends of Edward VI. were very desirous that he should marry the young Scotch princess Mary, who was heiress to the Scottish crown. But they made the mistake of sending

an army to Scotland to compel the Scotch to agree to this marriage; the Scotch grew angry at this, and though they were defeated in the
1547. battle of Pinkie they would not hear of the marriage but sent their young princess away to France to be educated.

7. Among those who were put to death by Mary were two Bishops of Edward VI.'s reign, Latimer and Cranmer. Latimer was a great preacher, and Cranmer was a master of beautiful English, who wrote the prayers which the Church of England still uses. These were burned at Oxford.

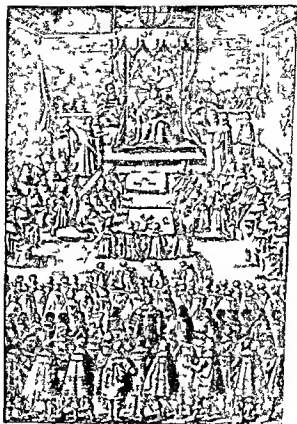


Elizabeth

QUEEN ELIZABETH.

Mansell.

FROM A PHOTOGRAPH AFTER A PAINTING BY F. ZUCHARO
IN THE NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY.



QUEEN ELIZABETH IN PARLIAMENT

CHAPTER XVII.

ELIZABETH. 1558 to 1603.

1. Elizabeth was a young woman of five and twenty when she came to the throne. She was like her father Henry VIII. In many ways. Like him, she was open-handed to her friends and she could be affable in her manners when she chose. She was not however a woman whom we can love. She was selfish, cruel and deceitful and often very mean where she ought to have been generous.

2. It is true that she was much admired by the country. She kept a splendid court and her reign was a successful one. In the course of it the English became richer and more powerful than before and they considered they owed this to the Queen. But the truth is, the most they owed her was that she chose good ministers and kept them in power. It is a wise ruler who does this, and Elizabeth so far was wise.

3. She was wise also in another way. She did not quarrel with her subjects. She did not tax them against their will. She was often much in

want of money, and once she tried the plan of making 'monopolies'. A monopoly is the right to be the only person who deals in some kind of article, and Elizabeth began to sell rights of this kind to some friends of hers. Of course they raised the price of the articles and the House of Commons grew very angry. Elizabeth was wise enough to take back her monopolies. So she had no quarrels with Parliament about money, and they left her alone to deal with her own personal enemies as she saw fit. Many of them she imprisoned, but she did not murder her great noblemen as her father did.

4. She was a true Protestant, though not a pious woman, and she made herself Head of the English Church like her father. She did not however altogether dislike the old services of the Roman Church and many of the Protestants were not satisfied to see so much of them kept. These Protestants were called Puritans, because, as they said, they wanted a 'purer' religion, a very simple one, without any ceremonies at all. Elizabeth, who was fond of splendour, did not agree with these people.

5. All through her reign she was much disturbed by plots against her power, many of which were intended to place on the throne Mary, Queen of Scots. This was a cousin of Elizabeth's, a descendant of Henry VII., who became Queen of

Scotland just as Elizabeth became Queen of England. She was about the same age as Elizabeth, but very different from her in character. She was more beautiful, though perhaps less able; and she was a Catholic. She had been brought up in France, and when she came to Scotland she found that the country had become very strongly Protestant. the old Church had no friends at all, and Mary was alone in her country. The Catholics of England sympathised with her, and very unwisely, they began to think of making her Queen of England. Elizabeth naturally became a bitter enemy of hers. After a few years Mary's subjects rose against her in Scotland and she fled to England and asked Elizabeth to protect her. Elizabeth was much puzzled what to do, but she ended by keeping Mary in prison for eighteen years. During these years there were constant plots to set her free and make her Queen of England and at last by Elizabeth's orders she was put to death.

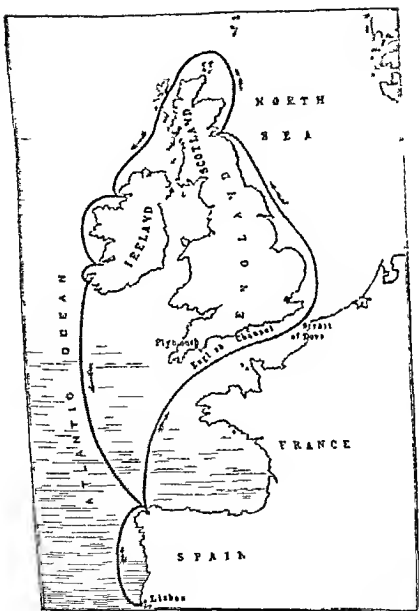
1568.

1587.

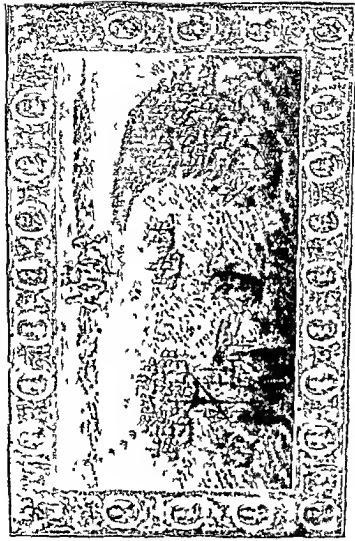
6. During all these years there were great wars and changes on the continent of Europe. The kingdom of Spain had risen to the height of its power. In France there were civil wars between Protestants and Catholics, which made the country weak, but Spain was united and strongly Catholic. She had taken possession of the New World.

and the discoveries of gold and silver there made her immensely rich. Every year the ships of Philip came back from America to Spain loaded with silver and gold. Gradually the English sailors began to attack these ships of Philip, and this made him very angry. At last the English sailors began to trade with America itself, which Philip would not allow, and one named Drake sailed all round the coast of South America, and afterwards round the world. Philip determined to put an end to this, especially as the English were Protestants and he was a great enemy of the Protestant religion. He formed a fleet—or *Armada*, in Spanish—and put on board of it an army of soldiers and sent it off to conquer England, and restore the country to the Church of Rome.

7 Elizabeth had no fleet of her own to oppose to the Armada but all the sailors and merchants of the country brought their ships together. They fought and defeated the Spaniards, who were further troubled by a great storm that blew them far into the North Sea. They sailed back to Spain round the North of Scotland and the West of Ireland, but only half the Armada reached Spain. This victory gave the English great confidence at sea, and after this English ships made their way to every part of the world. Moreover people began to see



THE ROUTE OF THE SPANISH ARMADA



Mansell

THE 'ARMIADA' IN THE CHANNEL
FROM THE PAVING IN THE HOUSE OF LORDS

that the nation must have war-ships of its own, and the Royal Navy began to grow up.

8. While the Armada was sailing against England, the Catholic subjects of England remained loyal to their country and their Queen. The Protestants however could not forget that a Catholic king had sent the fleet to put down the Protestant religion, and they made severe laws against Catholics. Catholic priests were forbidden to hold services, and many who did so were put to death.

9. The war with Spain was the only great war of the reign. Elizabeth did not join in the wars on the continent of Europe, although the Protestants, who were fighting hard in France and Holland, would have been glad of her help. If Henry V. had been King of England instead of her the history of the time would have been very different.

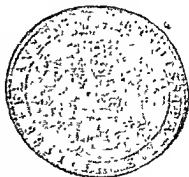
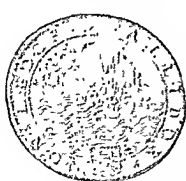
10. Though she did not like fighting, she was obliged, however, to fight in Ireland. We saw that during the Middle Ages most of Ireland was ruled by little Irish chiefs, while the Norman barons held some estates in the East of the country — near the town of Dublin. For some hundreds of years there was war between the Normans and the Irish, and war between the Irish among

themselves; the country was very wretched and there was no progress. The English kings never tried to conquer it or help it; they did not like crossing the Irish Sea and they did not much want the Irish as subjects. In the Wars of the Roses the Irish took the side of York, and the Tudor kings began to see that it might be dangerous if the Irish were enemies of the English King. The Irish too were all Catholics; there was no Reformation there; and a foreign enemy, like Philip, who was a Catholic, might use them as allies against England. So at last Elizabeth determined to bring all the island into submission, and she sent strong forces to subdue it. The Irish united against her, but she beat them down and a real conquest of Ireland took place.

11. The chief minister of Elizabeth was Sir William Cecil, who continued in power from her accession almost to the year of her death. He was an honourable, hardworking and unselfish man, who was very poorly rewarded by the Queen, though she gave away much more money to young noblemen whose good looks pleased her. She was wise enough, however, not to allow these favourites to take much part in the government of the country.



SIR FRANCIS DRAKE.
FROM A CONTEMPORARY ENGRAVING.



THE ARMADA MEDAL.
REVERSE. CHURCH ON ROCK AND STORMY WAVES.
OBVERSE. NAVAL ENGAGEMENT, DESTRUCTION OF
SPANISH FLEET.



Sept 193

Photo F th Regale

AN ELIZABETHAN HOUSE, CHARLCOTE PARK



OLD HOUSES IN CHESTER

12. All through her reign her ministers and her subjects were very anxious that she should marry and have an heir to the crown. They were afraid that after her death there would be another civil war. Elizabeth however was too selfish to share her throne with a husband and even up to her death she never let the nation know whom she would like to succeed her.

13. Why did the Puritans grow up in Elizabeth's reign? Partly because many English Protestants went abroad to Germany during Mary's persecution, and there they met the stern Protestants of Germany. They found there were no bishops in their church, and when they returned to England they wanted to do away with bishops in the Church of England.

14. The great leader of the Scotch Protestants was Knox. Under his guidance the whole nation became Protestants, and the Scotch Protestants were much stricter than the English.

15. Philip could not invade England, because it was defended by the sea; but there was another little Protestant country less fortunate—Holland. Philip sent an army of soldiers there and for many years treated the Protestants there with great cruelty. The English had only to look across the

sea to perceive what their sailors had saved them from. They did not, however, do much to help the Dutch, but the Dutch at last drove the Spaniards out of their country themselves.



Photo Valentino Dundee

MARY STUART'S BEDROOM
HOLYROOD PALACE EDINBURGH



1



2



3



4

See p. 93

ELIZABETHAN COSTUMES

- 1 COURTIER. 2 LADY 3 COUNTRYWOMAN
4. PURITANS

CHAPTER XVIII.

THE ELIZABETHAN AGE.

1. We have seen how the poor suffered in the reign of the early Tudors. Many of them were driven to wander about the country begging; many became thieves, and were added to the number of rascally soldiers whom the end of the civil wars left without occupation. All this led to two things:—

2 (1) The laws against stealing and other crimes became much more severe. People were hanged for many small offences.

(2) At the same time the first Poor Law was passed in Elizabeth's reign. By this, every district was ordered to help the really helpless poor, who were unable to work. For this purpose every district was to raise a tax of its own. Ever since that time England has had a Poor Law.

3 Fortunately, by the end of Elizabeth's reign, the nation began to grow richer and more industrious, and there was plenty of occupation for people both at home and abroad. English wool began to be spun and woven in England; almost every cottage had its spinning wheel.

4. The merchants and traders of England began to grow more enterprising. Up till now most of the great merchants in London had been foreigners, and the Kings of England had encouraged such men to settle there. But now the English merchants began to take the lead in trade with distant countries. They formed themselves into companies, because the risk was too great for one man to face. Thus they formed the Hudson Bay Fur Company, to trade with the American Indians in fur,—and this company has lasted down to our own day. African companies were formed, which lasted three hundred years, and in 1600 the East India Company was formed to trade with Asia. It took to India glass, knives, and woollen cloth; it brought back muslin, calico and spices. The first strong settlement it made in India was at Surat.

5. At the same time the Royal Exchange was built, a large building where merchants could meet together and form plans for commercial enterprises. After this was done the English bankers began to grow richer and they began to lend the Sovereign money when it was wanted. Elizabeth and her ministers encouraged all these movements.

6. As the country became richer the surroundings of life began to improve. Houses became better; glass windows began to be seen every where

Instead of holes in the wall, with shutters ; and even the humblest houses began to have chimneys instead of holes in the roof to let out the smoke. No more castles were built ; the nobles often gave up living in those which they had and built themselves beautiful houses with gardens round them. England is still full of these Elizabethan houses, which are amongst the most beautiful in the world.

7. Furniture improved ; good beds became common. New and better kinds of food came into use, especially vegetables ; the potato was brought from America and was much appreciated. Beer was still the common drink of all classes.

8. The houses in the towns did not change much ; the streets were still narrow and dirty and dreadful diseases were common. Amongst them was leprosy.

9. The upper classes were fond of magnificent clothes ; both men and women loved silk and lace and bright colours. They often spent much money on these luxuries and the court of Queen Elizabeth was a mass of splendour. Money was also spent on pictures, though there were no English artists yet, and artists had to be brought from Holland and Italy. And much money was also spent on amusements, of which the whole nation was

very fond. Some of these amusements were coarse and cruel, such as bull-baiting; others were noble and dignified. Such was the theatre, which became in a few years a national amusement, the delight of every class. Many great authors wrote plays, but all names yield to that of Shakespeare, who was a subject of Queen Elizabeth.

10. Shakespeare, however, was only the greatest of many great writers, who were all born and wrote in Elizabeth's reign. Before this, there had not been much written in England; there had only been one real giant in literature — Chaucer; after him for a hundred and fifty years there was nobody. But now poems, plays, histories and books of all kinds were written and printed, and many of them were great and famous. We shall mention here only the name of Francis Bacon, Lord Bacon, who has tried to answer for us the questions, How should a wise man live? How should a wise King rule?

11. We can now see why English people are proud of Elizabeth's age. They remember it for one great national victory in war; for the spread of English trade; the great voyages of English seamen, and the great writings of Elizabethan authors. Like all great ages, it passed away. Already there were men who were discontented with it.

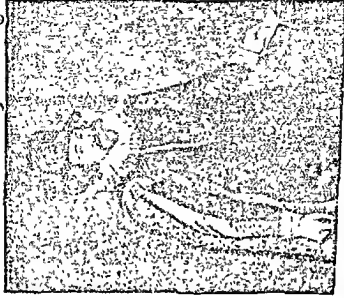


QUEEN ELIZABETH CARRIED IN STATE.



WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE.

FROM THE BUST ON HIS MOUNTMENT IN THE
CHURCH AT STRATFORD-ON-AVON.



Mansell.

SIR FRANCIS BACON.

FROM THE PORTRAIT BY PAUL VAN SOMER.

The Puritans thought the English Church was still too much like the Church of Rome. The middle classes who filled the House of Commons, began to think the Queen ought to consult them more. These people are going to make their views heard in the future; but before we pass on let us fully understand the real and wonderful progress of the nation under Elizabeth.

CHAPTER XIX.

JAMES I. 1603 TO 1625.

1. The history of England and Scotland before the union of the Crowns was a history of long hostility. The Scotch never forgot Bannockburn; they looked on France as their national friend rather than England and often helped the French king by invading England. More than once the Tudor kings tried to unite the two countries and a marriage nearly took place between Mary, afterwards Queen of Scots, and Edward VI, but the two nations quarrelled once more and the Scotch sent Mary to France to be brought up

1314.

1547.

2. The Reformation, however, put an end to the friendship of France and Scotland, and made the Scotch and English feel they had something in common. So the English were not altogether unwilling, when Elizabeth died, to take their new King from Scotland. His title to the throne came to him through his mother Mary Queen of Scots, who was descended from Henry VII.

1603.

3. James himself was very glad to leave his own country for England. He was going from a poor country to a rich one.* He was going from a

9

country where the King was weak to a country where the King was strong. In Scotland the nobles were still as powerful as the old Norman nobles of England had been, and they were always rebelling against the King. In England they had lost all their power, indeed we shall never again find a nobleman in arms against the Crown. James was pleased to think that he would rule England as an absolute sovereign like Elizabeth.

4. Unfortunately he did not see that the power of the middle classes, the merchants and traders, had very much increased in England. The time had come for the King to make friends of those people and give them a share in the government. We must remember that James was a foreigner and he was already thirty-eight years old when he came to England, so perhaps it is not surprising that he never understood the country. Unfortunately he quarrelled also with his own country, because he wished to rule it as England was ruled, which the Scotch did not like.

5. He was himself much feebler than the Tudor Kings. He was a learned man—though learning is not of much use to a king, and he was kind-hearted, but he was lazy and obstinate, and in his person he was awkward and ugly. He was even cowardly, and could not bear the sight of a naked sword.

6. James meant to rule England like Elizabeth, but he had not the good sense to choose wise ministers as she did. He was fond of young good-looking favourites, who amused him; he wasted money on them and allowed them to interfere with the government. The best known of them is George Villiers, whom the King made Duke of Buckingham.

7. James was no lover of war, and on coming to the throne he at once made peace with Spain. He did not see that Spain was no longer the mighty power that she had been in the days of Philip; that the wars with England and with the Protestants on the Continent had weakened her. He wanted his son Charles to marry the Infanta of Spain, and Buckingham and Charles did actually go to Spain 1623. to see if the marriage could be arranged. However, they found the Spaniards would not agree to it; they did not want a heretic to marry their princess.

8. There are two things, on the whole, for which the reign is notable:

- (i) the quarrel between James and the House of Commons;
- (ii) the growth of British possessions abroad.

The quarrel broke out over several points, of which the first was the king's claim to tax his

subjects without the consent of Parliament. As we saw, long ago, in the great Charter it had been agreed that the king should not do this. This agreement had never been broken; even the Tudor kings did not venture to break it. How then did they get money?

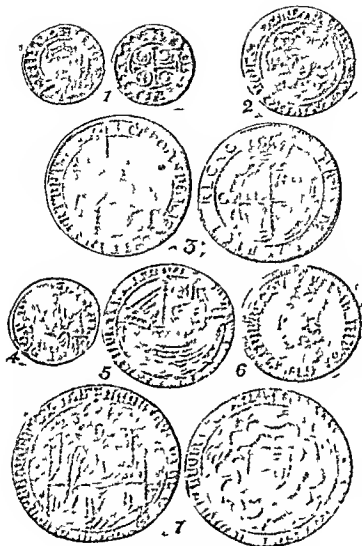
9. First, the kings of England had estates of their own, which had belonged to them ever since the days of the Conqueror. Then the House of Commons always granted them some taxes willingly. Lastly, when the great nobles were fined for offences, the fines went to the king. Henry VII. had erected a court called the Star Chamber, which was specially intended to keep the nobles in order and it sometimes fined them very heavily. In spite of this, however, the kings were often in want of money. We have seen how Henry VIII. plundered the monasteries and coined bad money, how Elizabeth tried monopolies. We may ask why James did not call Parliament together and ask for more taxes. The answer is because Parliament, before it granted these taxes, might have asked some disagreeable questions about the government of the country.

10. In the end, however, Parliament met and granted him some 'customs,' or taxes on goods coming into the country, but James, who was very wasteful, could not make these go far. He then



JAMES I

FROM THE PORTRAIT BY PAUL VAN SOMER IN THE NATIONAL
PORTRAIT GALLERY



ENGLISH SILVER COINS

1 WILLIAM I PENNY 2 HENRY VI ROAT 3 CHARLES HALF-CROWN

ENGLISH GOLD COINS

4 HENRY III GOLD PENNY 5 EDWARD III NOBLE 6 ELIZABETH I HALF SOBERG 7 HENRY VI SOVEREIGN

increased the customs himself, and he began to sell monopolies. When he called Parliament together, the House of Commons complained of these actions and would not grant him any money. They also attacked the King's Chancellor, Lord Bacon, because he defended the King's monopolies. He was tried before the House of Lords for this and for taking bribes and he was convicted and the King had to dismiss him. This was a victory for the Commons, but they gained no other victory, and when James died he and the Commons were still fighting. 1621.

11. While this was going on James was also fighting the Puritans. All through the reign of Elizabeth the Puritans had been growing in numbers and growing more discontented. They did not like the splendours of the Church and Court of Elizabeth. They wore simple clothes of dark cloth, they did not care for the popular amusements, they thought men should spend their lives either in work or in religious meditation. The subject of this meditation should be the Word of God, the Bible, Sunday should be entirely given up to this meditation, and to very simple services in plain churches; the very name of 'priest' should be given up, and every congregation should choose its own minister. The Church should be ruled by these.

ministers, together with a few elders, chosen by the congregations.⁷ Such elders are called 'presbyters' and a Church which is so ruled is called 'presbyterian.' The Puritans wished to make the Church of England presbyterian. However it was still ruled by bishops, and it was therefore, like the Church of Rome, 'episcopalian.' The Bishops of the English Church had tried to put down these Puritans in the reign of Elizabeth, and James, when he came to the throne, took the part of the Bishops. The Puritans were fined and imprisoned. Now the Puritans belonged mostly to the middle classes,⁸ the traders and townspeople, they were the same people who opposed James in the House of Commons.

12 The Protestants of Scotland were all Presbyterians, they had no bishops in their Church. James sent some bishops to Scotland, and thus, though he was a Scotchman himself, the Scotch people became enemies of his.

13 It is pleasant to add that he did one good thing for religion in England, he ordered the translation of the Bible to be revised once more. The best of the early translations had been made by Wycliffe, others had followed, and now a final translation was made. This became the Bible of the English people for three hundred years.

14. If James was no friend to the Puritans, he was not a Catholic either. He would not change the laws against the Catholic priests. This disappointed the Catholics, and some of them formed a plot to destroy him and his Parliament by blowing them up with gunpowder. The leader of the plot was Guy Fawkes; he was caught under the building where the House of Commons met, waiting to set on fire the gunpowder which he had stored there. After this the laws against the Catholics became more severe than ever. 1605.

15. All the quarrels in England did not prevent the nation from spreading its power abroad.

(1) Ireland had been conquered, but it was clear that the Irish would never be friendly to England. James accordingly, wishing to have friends settled in the country, sent a number of Scotch and English settlers to the North of it. He divided amongst them the part of Ireland called Ulster, and the descendants of these people still live there. They were industrious people, and soon made the linen of Ireland famous. Of course they were all Protestants and enemies of the rest of Ireland. 1611

16. (ii) It was in James's reign that the English first began to colonise North America. We have seen how the Spaniards went there, but they did

1584
onwards

not go as colonists. They carried off gold and silver and returned to their own country; but the English went to America to live there. The first colony was Virginia, named after the Virgin Queen Elizabeth. It was founded further north than the Spanish part of the country, but still in the warmer part of North America, where the summer is very hot and maize and tobacco grow. Those who founded it were gentlemen of good families in England, who settled down on large estates there. They brought negroes from Africa to work on their fields, and thus began the long unhappy connection of England with the slave trade.

1620.

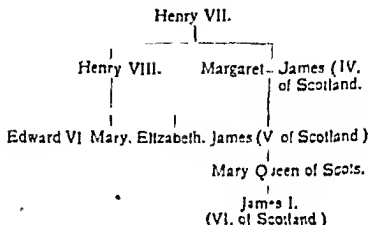
17. (III) Soon afterwards another colony was founded in the North, again by English people, but people different from those who founded Virginia. They were Puritans who had left the English Church and called themselves 'Independents,' and they left England because they were not allowed to worship in their own way in England. They first sailed to America in a little ship called the Mayflower and there, with others, founded several colonies which were all called together New England. They suffered much from the cold American winters, but they persevered, they cut down the woods, planted corn, drove back the Indians and made their own homes in the land. Though they had left England

they considered themselves subject of King James and obeyed the English laws.

18. (iv) In this same reign the English began to settle in the West Indian Islands, while far away in the East Indies they were fighting the Dutch for possessions there. For we must notice that while the power of Spain was growing weak that of the Dutch was growing strong. The Dutch, however, did not turn their thoughts to America, but to the Far East, and it was in Ceylon and the Spice Islands that they did most of their trade. Here they and the English had a long struggle with each other.

19. We should notice that James was the first king who called himself King of Great Britain. The two parts of Great Britain still had their own Parliaments and their own laws; and Ireland too from the days of Elizabeth had its own Parliament.

20. The following table shows the title of James I. to the English throne :—



1618. 21. When James, in the beginning of his reign, was trying to become friendly with Spain, he put to death Sir Walter Raleigh. This was the last of the heroes of the Elizabethan age. He had been a great sailor and made many voyages to America, and had named, though he did not settle, the Colony of Virginia. He promised James to find a gold mine in Guiana, and he made an unsuccessful expedition in search of it. On this expedition he fought with the Spaniards and the Spaniards complained to James, who put Raleigh to death, on his return to England.

22. The form of trial by which Lord Bacon was tried is called an 'Impeachment.' It is only used for great offenders, who are charged with crimes which the ordinary laws do not punish. In such a trial the House of Commons brings the charge and the House of Lords acts as judges.

23. We must remember that many of James's subjects, especially in the upper classes, were quite willing that he should rule without a Parliament, and tax the country himself. These people thought that the king is placed above the nation as God is placed above the world; that the power to rule is given to the king by God, and the king must use that power according to his own wisdom and not according to the wishes of the people. The Stuarts themselves held this view, that the right of kings to rule is divine, and they believed it was wrong for them to yield to Parliament.

CHAPTER XX.

CHARLES I. 1625 to 1649.

1. Charles I. was a brave, dignified and pious man and a sincere lover of his country. How is it then that he fought a long war with his subjects and his subjects at last put him to death? In the first place, like his father James, he would not see that times had changed, that the middle classes of England could not be compelled to pay taxes without their consent, or the Puritans to worship in ways they did not like. Secondly, in his long dispute with these people he did not always speak the truth or keep his word. For this reason, more than any other, he was put to death.

2 We have seen that he once thought of marrying a Spanish princess. When this idea was given up, a war with Spain followed. Charles of course wanted money for the war, but the Commons would not grant it unless he sent away his minister, the Duke of Buckingham. Charles would not do this, and he raised money by monopolies and by taxes which Parliament had not granted. After a few years Parliament sent a



CHARLES I.

FROM THE PORTRAIT BY DANIEL MYTENS IN THE NATIONAL
PORTRAIT GALLERY.



Mason

JOHN HAMPDEN

STATUE BY J H FOLLY A R A IN ST STEPHEN'S
HALL, HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT

Petition to the king, the Petition of Right, demanding that he should promise — 1628.

(I) Never to raise money without their consent.

(II) Not to Imprison men without trial.

John had promised this long ago to the Barons in Magna Carta, and Charles had now to promise it again to the Commons.

3 He did not keep his promise, however, but invented a new tax called Ship-money, because this money was to be used, he said, for building ships for the Royal Navy. Some people paid it, but a country-gentleman named Hampden refused to pay it, and he soon became one of the leaders of the Commons against the King 1637.

4 While this dispute was going on, the Puritans in the Church of England were suffering under Charles's government of the Church. He gave the chief power to Archbishop Laud, who was a vigorous enemy of the Puritans. He insisted on the ceremonies which they disliked, and forbade them to hold their own meetings for worship. Those who disobeyed were fined and imprisoned.

5. All this went on for some years; the Puritans struggled against the king, but they did not make

much headway against him. He had the English judges on his side, and several courts — most of all the Star Chamber — punished all who opposed him. Very likely he thought the victory would be his in the end. In Ireland a minister of his named Wentworth was ruling successfully, and it seems that Wentworth meant to raise an army in Ireland which would some day help Charles in England.

1637. 6 At last, however, he made the mistake of going a little too far. He and Laud decided to compel the Scotch accept all the forms of the English Church and worship in just the same way. Now we have seen that the Scotch were all strong Puritans, they were also Presbyterians and would not have bishops to rule over their Church. When the bishops sent by Charles tried to rule the Church as he wished, the whole Scottish nation rose against them. They made an agreement called the National Covenant, which men of all classes signed, binding themselves to keep the Scottish Church free from any changes. Charles collected an army to punish them, but his army would not fight and he found himself quite without money to pay his troops. He sent for Wentworth from Ireland to help him, and Wentworth (whom he now made

Earl of Strafford) came over, but he could only advise Charles to call his Parliament together and try to agree with them. Charles accordingly did so, and the Long Parliament met.

1640.

7. It met however in a very stern and determined mood. It seized both Laud and Strafford; it imprisoned Laud in the Tower and executed Strafford on a charge of treason. It put an end to the Court of Star Chamber, and declared once more that no taxes should be levied without the consent of Parliament. The House of Commons took the lead in all this; but most of the Lords were with it. Its leaders were Hampden and Pym, the latter of whom was a very eloquent man, the first great orator in English history.

8. The victory of the Parliamentary party now seemed to be complete, but they too, like the King before them, went a little too far. There was a majority of Puritans in this Parliament and they determined to make all English Puritans and to do away with everything in the Church which the Puritans did not like. There were, however, plenty of English people who, though they were Protestants, were not Puritans. They liked a Church and forms of worship such as Elizabeth and Charles preferred; and they refused to help the Puritans to destroy it. When Charles saw this division in

England, and called themselves Independents. They thought there should be no government of the Church at all, by bishops or elders, every little body of Christians should govern itself, and worship as it pleased—excepting of course the Catholics, whom they were not willing to allow at all.

13 Even these men, however, were willing to come to terms with Charles, but he made it impossible for them to do so. He secretly persuaded the Scotch to invade England. The invasion however was a failure, and it only made the Independents exceedingly angry. They brought Charles to trial on a charge of treason and he was put to death. Everyone agrees that he met his death with great courage and dignity.

14 The early Norman Kings had levied ship-money, but it had not been heard of since their days.

15 Hampden was compelled by the Courts to pay the ship money, but his courage in resisting Charles made him famous.

16 In the early days of the war, while the Parliament was unsuccessful, they took Laud from the Tower and put him to death.



ENGLAND AT THE BEGINNING OF THE
CIVIL WAR

the Parliament party, he took courage again, and not long afterwards he set up his standard and called on his friends to fight for him.

9 Thus began the Civil War. It was a war
1642. between the Parliament party and the King's friends. The Parliament party were most of them, though not quite, all Puritans; the King's friends—the Royalists—were the rest of the Protestants and the Catholics. The Catholics of course hoped that if he won he would make the laws against them less severe. So, in the main, the war was a religious war, though there was also a question about the right of the King to govern and raise taxes without the consent of Parliament.

10. The numbers on the two sides were perhaps equal. On the King's side were most (though not all) of the nobility, on the Parliament side most of the trading classes, with a few gentlemen. The nobility brought their tenants and servants into the field, their opponents sent out the young men of the towns. Most of the towns—including London—were with the Parliament; and the Parliament had also the East and South of the country.

11. At first the advantage remained with the King. His friends were used to handle arms and they had better horses than the Parliament

armies,* though he was sadly in want of money. Still, he began well; and Parliament lost both its great leaders; Hampden was killed in action, and Pym died. Another and a greater leader, however, was at hand;— Oliver Cromwell. This was a country gentleman, a relative of Thomas Cromwell who was the first to see where the weakness of the Parliament lay. "We are fighting" he said, "against *gentlemen*; we must have men of spirit to fight men of honour; and the men of spirit whom we must look for are men of true religious spirit, who fight for religion alone." Cromwell found these men, he trained them and he made of them his body of 'Ironsides,' who were never to the last beaten on any field of battle. They fought on foot, with muskets and pikes, and the cavalry of the King could never break them. In two great battles they crushed the royal armies, Marston Moor and Naseby; and the cause of Charles was ruined.

1644.

1645.

12 After a year, Charles fell into the power of these men. They had grown sterner and fiercer during the long war, and most of them had quite given up the idea of belonging to the Church of

* Most of them fought on horseback and for this reason they are often called 'Cavaliers.'



Oliver Cromwell

OLIVER CROMWELL.

FROM A PORTRAIT BY SAMUEL COOPER IN THE NATIONAL
PORTRAIT GALLERY.

17. The first battle of the war was at Edgehill, 1642. in Oxfordshire. The King won.

18. The Scotch took no part in the early days of the war, but after a time they sent an army to help the Parliament, on condition that the English Church should become Presbyterian. This army did good service to the Parliament; but, on the other hand, some of the Highlanders, led by the Earl of Montrose, fought for the King in Scotland. 1645. After Charles was made prisoner, the Scotch army went back to Scotland. Charles then persuaded them to return and help him against the Independents; there were several battles between them and Cromwell, and this made the Independents so angry that they put Charles to death. The chief charge which was brought against him was that of having deceitfully caused this unnecessary war between the Scotch and the Independents.

CHAPTER XXI.

THE COMMONWEALTH. 1649 TO 1660.

1. The victorious Parliament now proclaimed England a Commonwealth, and the House of Commons became the only governing power. The army meanwhile, though the war in England was over, was busy fighting the Irish and the Scotch. Both these nations were shocked by the death of Charles I. and they declared his young son to be King as Charles II. Neither of them had taken much part in the Civil War, but now they rose to support Monarchy against the Commonwealth. In Ireland it was the Catholics who supported Charles; in Scotland the Presbyterians. Both of them disliked the Independents who fought in Cromwell's army, and both hoped that if Charles's son, Charles, were restored by their arms he would favour them.

2. Both were quite unsuccessful. Cromwell and
1649. his soldiers crossed to Ireland and put down the
Irish rising with great severity. They then went
1650. to Scotland and crushed the Scotch in the battle
of Dunbar. Charles fled to the Continent, and

while Cromwell lived there was no more war anywhere in Great Britain. Though he was more than forty years old before he became a soldier, he was one of the great generals of the world; he was never defeated on any field of battle.

3. He had now to face the task of ruling England. He did not himself wish to be the sole ruler of the country, but he was forced to enter on this position as a duty. The Parliament ruled badly, and Cromwell in the end did what Charles I, had tried to do—he sent them away and ruled without them as ‘Protector’ of England. But Cromwell had his victorious army to support him, and, moreover, he was a firm and able ruler.

4. He was one of the first to see that the religious quarrels of England could never be ended by compelling every man to join any one Church. People must be free to worship in their own way, and the State must ‘tolerate’ differences of religious opinion. Cromwell was not ready to tolerate the Catholics, and he would not allow any bishops to exist, but he tolerated all kinds of Protestants. The idea of toleration begins with his rule. After his death for a time it was forgotten again.

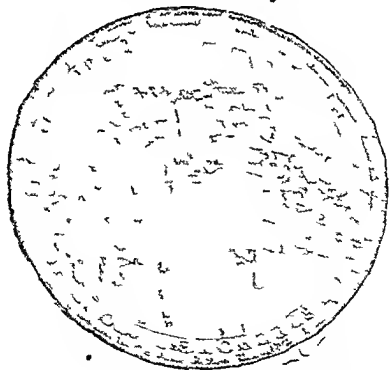
5. He was also the first ruler, except perhaps Edward I., to try to make Britain and Ireland a truly United Kingdom. He allowed each country

to trade freely with the other, and even in the few years of his rule the wealth of Scotland and Ireland began to grow. This too was changed after his death

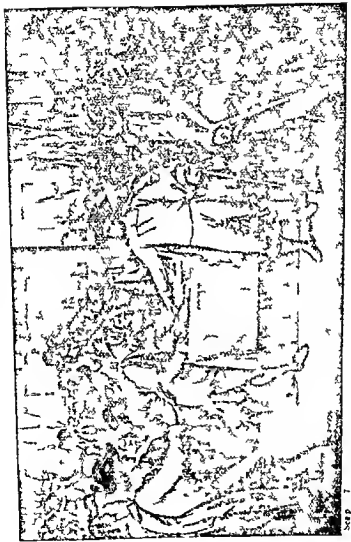
6 Nor did he fail to make himself felt abroad, on the continent of Europe. Great changes had taken place there, the power of Spain was sinking and the ruling nation at sea were the Dutch. England was still at war with Spain and a war with the Dutch soon followed. Cromwell was fortunate enough to find an able admiral in Blake, the first of the great sea-captains. The Spaniards were beaten once more at sea and the Island of Jamaica was captured by the English. In the battles with the Dutch the English at first were beaten, but by the end of Cromwell's life the two nations were on equal terms.



1 CAVALIER 2 AN OFFICER OF PIKE 3 A MUSKETEER



REVERSE OF THE GREAT SEAL OF THE COMMONWEALTH
SHOWING THE INTERIOR OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS



TAKE AWAY THAT BAUBLE

CROWWELL EXPPELLING THE MEMBERS OF THE LONG PARLIAMENT
FROM THIS PAINTING BY BENJAMIN WEST P. R. A.

8. He suggested that his son Richard should succeed him as Protector, but it was soon found that Richard was too weak for the post. A strong man might have gone on ruling England with the aid of the army, as Cromwell had done; but no strong man came forward to take the post. And it was clear that the greater part of the English people did not like the rule of the Independents. Most of the ordinary people liked the amusements which these strict Puritans had put down; they liked the older forms of religion, and they did not like the grave stern Independents.* The end of it was that a sort of Parliament met, which invited Charles to return from the Continent and sit on his father's throne.

9. The battle of Dunbar was not the last battle of the war. Part of the Scotch forces entered England and were pursued by Cromwell as far as Worcester, where they were defeated.

1651.

CHAPTER XXII.

CHARLES II 1660 to 1685.

1. Charles II loved, beyond everything else, pleasure and amusement. He had no desire to quarrel with his subjects and go on his travels again. Caring little about religion, he seems to have been secretly a Catholic, but he did nothing for the Catholics. He did nothing, in fact, for any cause, and his reign is not a glorious one.

1664 2 The wars with the Dutch went on, and ended in the capture of New York by the English. This was the only settlement in the northern part of North America that had not been English, and now all the settlements there became English.

1643 3 After this the Dutch and the English became friends. They found a common enemy in France. The great day of France was now approaching. She was ruled by Louis XIV, a king who sat on her throne for seventy-two years, and 1715 made France for a time the chief power in Europe. The Dutch were much afraid of him, but they found a great leader in William, Prince of Orange, whom Louis never subdued. At first the English

King was the close friend of Louis, but later on the English nation began to take sides with the Dutch and Charles was forced to go with his subjects.

4. As we have said, he never quarrelled with his subjects. He was not a cruel nor a revengeful man and when first he came to the throne he did little to take vengeance on his fathers' enemies. His old friends thought he did not do enough, but it was fortunate for England that the bitterness of the Civil Wars was not renewed.

5. Of course the Puritans lost by the change—though many of them had helped to bring Charles back. Once more the English Church was placed under bishops, and all the Puritans who did not approve of this were forced to do what the Independents had done—to leave it. They became known as Non-Conformists. The name 'Puritan' disappeared, but the name 'Non-Conformists' is still used to-day, and means all Protestants in England who do not belong to the Episcopalian Church of England. Charles II. and his government passed laws against these Non-Conformists and would not allow them to meet for worship. We must notice that these laws were passed with the consent of Parliament, for the Puritans had not a majority now in the Commons, as they had in the time of Charles I. In the general weariness

of the Independents' rule many Puritans had gone back to Charles's side and thus he had a House of Commons friendly to him. They were so friendly to him that they granted him the right to raise taxes for the rest of his life, and Charles II. never had to quarrel with them about money.

6. About this time the names Whig and Tory begin to be heard in English politics. The name 'Tory' was given to the friends of the King—the old Royalists, the name 'Whig' to those who wished to keep down the King's power. The Tories belonged in religion to the Church of England—if they were not Catholics, the Whigs were Independents or Non-Conformists. Most of the nobility—though not all—were Tories, most of the trading classes and townspeople Whigs.

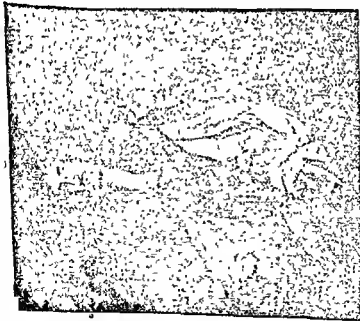
1678 7. All this time the laws against the Catholics continued, they were even strengthened. During the reign of Charles II there was a false story invented about a Catholic plot against the King which much alarmed the Protestants and caused many Catholics to be put to death. The chief author of this story was Titus Oates. We need not be surprised if the people of England believed it, for they had not forgotten the Gunpowder Plot, but it was a foolish tale, and Titus Oates was afterwards severely punished.



Mansell.

JAMES II.

FROM THE PORTRAIT BY JOHN RILEY IN THE
NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY.



CHARLES II.

FROM THE PORTRAIT BY GREENHILL IN THE
NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY.



THE GREAT PLAGUE.—“BRING OUT YOUR DEAD.”

FROM THE BLACK AND WHITE DRAWING BY

R. CATON WOODVILLE.

8. The reign of Charles II. is memorable in the history of the City of London. During this reign there broke out the Great Plague. We have 1665. seen that in the dirty crowded cities of the Middle Ages plagues were not uncommon, but this was the most severe that ever visited London. It spread also to other parts of the country. After the plague followed the Great Fire, which burned down 1666. most of the city. Fortunately, it was rebuilt with wider and more healthy streets, and the fire seems to have been in the end a blessing. The most famous building which perished was old St. Paul's Cathedral. It was a Gothic building, and the new Cathedral which was built afterwards was in the new style of the Renaissance. The architect was the greatest of English architects, Sir Christopher Wren.

9. The reign of Charles II. is often called the Restoration.

10. The laws of Charles II. against the Puritans were enforced with great severity in Scotland against the Presbyterians. The Scotch still had their National Covenant, by which they agreed not to submit to the rule of bishops in the Scotch Church, and thus the Presbyterians of this time are often called Covenanters. Many of them were put to death.

1681. 11. The foundation of the American colonies went on during the reign of Charles II. One important colony was Pennsylvanta, founded by Penn. He belonged to a new body of Puritans called the Society of Friends, which lived very simply and refused to take part in any kind of war or violence. They have since been called Quakers and are still an important body of Christians.

1679. 12. In the reign of Charles II. was passed the Habeas Corpus Act. 'Habeas Corpus' means "bring forward the person," and this act was so called because it orders that if any person is seized and imprisoned, he must at once be brought up in person for trial.

CHAPTER XXIII.

JAMES II. 1685 to 1688.

1. The success of Charles II must account for the ease with which James II. took his seat on the throne. He was a man whom everyone disliked both personally and as a ruler. He was obstinate, that is to say, he persisted in trying to get his own way when there was no chance of his doing so, and he was not able to understand the people of England. He saw that they had been very submissive to Charles, he thought they would submit also to him, but he forgot that Charles had never forced his own friends to do anything against their will. This is just what James did. He was a strong Catholic, and he determined to set his brother Catholics free from the laws against their religion. He published therefore a Declaration of Indulgence, declaring that all Catholics and Non-Conformists were free to practise their religion and to hold any offices under the government of the country. He granted this indulgence to the Non-Conformists because he hoped they would support him and help the Catholics against the

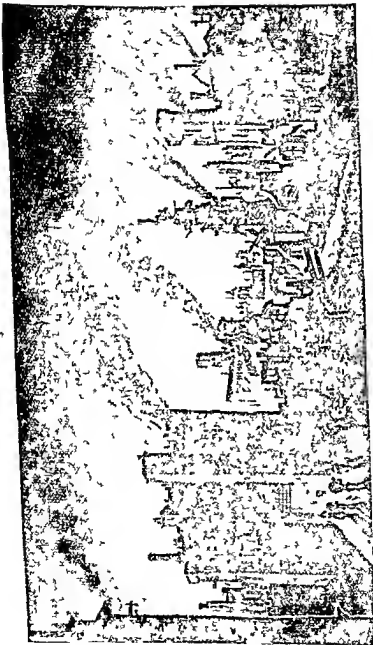
1687.

Church of England. He found, however, that they would not do so; they were afraid James would soon have a Catholic Government which would allow no freedom to any sort of Protestant.

2. James thus had the whole nation against him; but perhaps he thought himself strong enough to fight them. He was not in want of money for Parliament had granted him the right to raise taxes all his life. He had used this money to pay an army of soldiers, and he had a great general in Churchill. There were no armed men in England; Cromwell's old soldiers had long disappeared.

3. The leaders of the English people however did something James had not expected. Looking across the sea they saw William, Prince of Orange, at the head of the Dutch Protestants, fighting successfully against Louis XIV. of France. Now the Dutch had been enemies of England, but the two nations at this time were at peace and the English leaders sent to William and asked him to come and help them. Among those who sent this invitation were both Whigs and Tories, and all of them were men of high position. They did not ask William to become king but simply to come and help them, which he was very glad to do, for he himself wanted the help of the English against the French. So he landed with an army in the west of

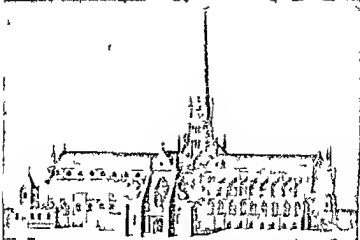
1688.



See p 123

THE GREAT FIRE OF LONDON, 1666

FROM A PAINTING BY J STOW



Se 11

OLD ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL
BEFORE THE DESTRUCTION OF THE STEEPLE

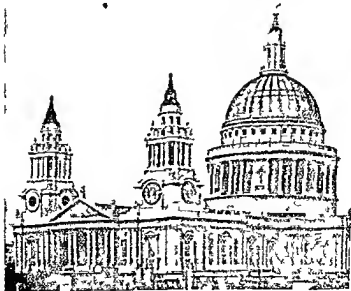


Photo Vanden Dundee

NEW ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL

BUILT BY SIR CHRISTOPHER WREN BETWEEN 1675 AND 1710

England, and very soon every one of importance in the country had joined him. He fought no battle—for there were no enemies to fight, and James, finding himself forsaken, ran away to France.

4. The question then arose, What was to be done? There were many of the Tories who still wanted to keep James as king, for they believed that no one had the power to dethrone a king who had once been crowned. But the nation thought differently, and Parliament declared that James himself had abdicated the throne by his flight; and they offered the throne to William. William's wife was Mary, the daughter of James II., and she became Queen along with her husband.

5. Finally, a Declaration of Right was drawn up in which Parliament named certain actions of James as illegal and forbade them to be repeated by future kings. The chief of these actions was the Declaration of Indulgence; and the Declaration of Right made it clear that the King of England must be bound by the laws of England. It also asserted that the King of England must always be a Protestant. Thus ended the reign of James II., in a great change which is called the Revolution. There is only one change in English history to which this name is given.

685. 6. There was a Protestant rebellion against James II. in the early part of his reign, led by the Duke of Monmouth, an illegitimate son of Charles II. It was put down at the battle of Sedgemoor,—the last battle fought on English soil.

CHAPTER XXIV.

LIFE AND MANNERS UNDER THE STUARTS.

1. Although the Stuart age was one of war, still, all the time England was quietly changing into modern England. The growth of industries continued. It gained a great deal from the foolish conduct of the French King Louis XIV., who drove out all the Protestants from France. France lost scores of thousands of her best people. These men, like the English Protestants, were hard-working people, and they brought with them to England the knowledge of many industries. From this time there were in England manufactures of silk, paper, glass, and knives and many other articles which had been imported from the Continent before. As yet however, there was little iron smelted in England; and little coal was used. Wood was used for all fires and for smelting iron, where that was done, in the South of England. Lancashire and Yorkshire were still lonely moors and forests.

2. The country labourers, though better off than they had been in the reign of Henry VIII., were still poorly paid, and there was not much work for them. We must notice however that the art of agriculture was improving. The nation that

taught Europe most in this matter was the Dutch. They found that cattle would eat turnips, and, as turnips could be stored during the winter, it was easily possible to keep cattle alive through the winter. Up to now this had been very difficult, as there was no grass for them to eat in the winter. Thus the number and quality of cattle all through Europe were much improved.

3 One thing that was not at all improved yet was the means of travel. The good roads the Romans had made were quite forgotten. There were indeed no true roads anywhere; there were only paths across the moors and fields and through the forests. Almost all travellers rode on horseback, though very heavy clumsy waggons were coming into use. These required six or eight horses to pull them, and they did not at the best of times travel more than a few miles an hour.

4. We have seen the splendour of dress in Elizabeth's day, and also how the Puritans objected to it. The fashion of splendid dress continued all through the Stuart reigns, but more and more people came over to the Puritan way of thinking, and after the Revolution *men* of every rank, as a rule, wore a dress of simple style. Silk and jewels and gorgeous colours were left to women, and are still, according to English ideas, only proper for ladies.



Mansell

SIR ISAAC NEWTON.
FROM THE PORTRAIT IN THE NATIONAL
PORTRAIT GALLERY.

5. Boys of good families were all educated at schools. The custom of sending them away as pages disappeared in Elizabeth's day and they began to be sent to the large Public Schools of England. Here they lived all the year round, except for the holidays, and they learned their Latin or Greek. Boys of humbler families went to day-schools. After the Reformation these were no longer kept by the monks; some were kept by private masters and some belonged to the State. There was a good deal of flogging in them all, for life was hard everywhere in those early days, and schoolboys felt the hardness of it as much as any one.

5. The Stuart age was a time of war, and there were not so many writers of books as in Elizabeth's day. The most famous books of the time are religious; we have seen the translation of the Bible fixed under James I. and in the reign of Charles I. lived the Puritan poet Milton. His poems tell us in beautiful verses the chief parts of the story of the Bible.

7. It is during the Stuart reigns that we see the beginnings of modern science. Harvey, the physician of Charles I., discovered the circulation of the blood. Charles II. himself took an interest in science and helped to found the Royal Society. In his reign lived Isaac Newton, the mathematician.

CHAPTER XXV.

WILLIAM III. 1689 TO 1702.

1. Like Cromwell, when his power in England was established, William had to fight in Ireland and Scotland. In Ireland, there had been since Cromwell's time, peace, but always hatred between the Protestants of the North and the Catholics of the South. Moreover, much land everywhere in Ireland had been given by Cromwell to Protestants and the old Irish owners were left poor and angry. Neither Charles nor James had given this land back to the Irish; still, since James was a Catholic, the Irish were friends of his and they rose up in arms against William. King James came over from France to lead them, and there was a long and famous siege of the Protestant town of Londonderry. The Protestants were almost starved to death, but they held the town till the Catholics went away. A year later William crossed over to Ireland himself, and won the battle of the Boyne. By degrees the rebellion was crushed; and the Irish Parliament, which was full of Protestants, made the most severe laws against the Catholics. These laws lasted for more than a hundred years.

2. In Scotland, the Puritans had suffered much ill-treatment during the reigns of Charles and James, and William was gladly received by them. There was one part of the country, however, which rose against him, a part of the Highlands. We remember that these Highlanders were at first part of the old British race, and they were still very different from the Scotch of the Lowlands. They wore a dress of their own, the kilt, they spoke their old language, Gaelic; and they were divided into little bodies called 'clans,' which were ruled by chiefs of their own. They lived chiefly on their herds of cattle, and they often came down into the plains of the Lowlanders and carried away their cattle from them. In the wars between the King and the Commons, some took the side of the King, some that of the Commons, and they became divided into Whig clans and Tory clans. The Tory clans now rose and fought against William. They were brave soldiers who fought with long swords and shields and had few muskets among them; even soldiers, who were much better armed could not stand against their fierce charges. They won several victories against William's soldiers, but their leader, the Earl of Dundee, was killed and they went back to their Highlands. Scotland was then at peace, and it was settled, once and for

ever, that bishops should be abolished in the Church of Scotland and it should remain Presbyterian. Thus the Scotch gained the point over which they had quarrelled with all the Stuart kings.

3 In England the age of toleration slowly began. The Church of England remained Episcopalian. Non-Conformists or Dissenters, as they began to be called, were allowed to worship in their own way, though they were not allowed to hold any post under government. They were thus better off than the Catholics, whose religion was hardly allowed at all.

4 William III may be compared very well with Cromwell, though he was not so able nor so fortunate. It is interesting to notice that like many great men he was always in poor health. He began his life as a ruler very young and most of it was an uphill struggle against France. As King of England he was never popular, he spoke little English and he was a grave silent man. But he ruled in accordance with the wishes of most of the people and his rule was not disturbed.

5 He was the first king of England to follow the wishes of the House of Commons in his choice of ministers. The Stuart Kings had never done this and the Commons had never been able to make them do it, but William found it necessary.

So as long as the Whigs were strongest in the House, he had Whig ministers; at the end of his reign when the Tories became stronger, Tory. Moreover, in his reign the ministers of the king became known, all together, as the Cabinet, by which name they are still known to-day.

6. Though William had united the forces both of Holland and England he had hard work to struggle against France. By sea he was at last successful, by land he just held his own. At last the Peace of Ryswick was arranged; Louis recognised William as King of England and agreed not to support James II. any longer. A little later however, James died, and Louis, breaking his word, recognised his son James as King of England. This offended almost the whole British nation. A few of them, the 'Jacobites,' were willing to see James's son brought back, but to most of them he became simply 'the Pretender,' who claimed a crown that was not his. 1697.

7. England soon had another reason for going to war with France. A question arose as to who was the heir to the crown of Spain, and both Louis and the Emperor of Austria claimed it, the one for his grandson, the other for his son. The power of France would have been dangerous to the rest of Europe if Spain and France had

1702 become united under one ruler, and William was anxious to prevent this. He formed a Grand Alliance of England, Holland, and Austria against France and prepared for war. Just at this moment however he died. Mary was already dead and the crown passed to her sister Anne.

1692 8 The chief victory won against the French was off Cape La Hogue in Normandy.

9 It was in William's reign that the Bank of England was founded, the first large bank in England.

10 During his reign the Scotch nation made their only attempt at founding a colony of their own, at Darien on the Isthmus of Panama. But the settlers were all killed by disease or by the Spaniards, and the Scotch were humbled and disappointed.



WILLIAM III

FROM THE PAINTING BY JOHN WYCK IN THE NATIONAL
PORTRAIT GALLERY



Mansell

QUEEN ANNE

FROM THE PORTRAIT BY JOHN CLOSTERMAN IN THE
NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY.

CHAPTER XXVI.

ANNE. 1702 to 1714.

1. Anne was a quiet pious woman who had enough of the Stuart in her to be a strong Tory. For most of her reign she had a Tory House of Commons and was ruled by the Tory Churchill, Duke of Marlborough. After a time Churchill left the Tories, because they would not support the war with France, and he went over to the Whigs. The end of this was another Tory ministry, of which the chief was Viscount Bolingbroke. This lasted till the end of Anne's reign.

2. Immediately after Anne's accession the expected war with France broke out. This is known as the War of the Spanish Succession; it lasted ten years and in the course of it were fought some of the greatest and bloodiest battles in history. The chief generals on the side of the Alliance were Marlborough and the German Prince Eugene; the chief battle was also the first, the battle of Blenheim. It was the first great battle which the French lost in the long reign of Louis XIV., and with it begins a fall in the fortune of France.

3. After some years the Tories of England began to tire of the war. They were always more friendly to France than the Whigs, who had always taken the part of Holland; some of them were even Jacobites, who did not want to fight France at all, and would have liked to see Louis XIV. set the Pretender on the English throne. In 1713, vain Marlborough went over to the Whigs to win their support for the war; a Tory Parliament met and concluded peace. The peace was the Treaty of Utrecht. By this the French king got the one thing he wanted, the crown of Spain for his grandson, but he had to give up some important places to Great Britain.

4. (i) Gibraltar. During the war, Great Britain seized this, a little bit of the kingdom of Spain which she has kept ever since. It commands the entrance to the Mediterranean and gives Great Britain a strong position there.

5. (ii) Newfoundland and Nova Scotia. Those parts of North America had been colonised by the French during the Stuart reigns, together with part of Canada. The French King and the French people did not see how important they would some day become, but the English government looked further ahead. So, when they had the opportunity, they made sure of them.

6. At home, a great step was taken in the Union of the Parliaments of England and Scotland. 1707. All through the reigns of the Stuarts the Scotch people kept their own Parliament and their own laws. They began to find however that this did not pay them. They remained foreigners in England and they could not join the commercial enterprises of England. For instance, they could not trade with England in ships, because the English allowed no foreign ships to enter their ports. Thus gradually, though not very willingly, they came to favour a Parliamentary union. The English favoured it because there was always some danger of the Scotch helping the Pretender, as long as they were really separate nation. Thus the Union came about, and from this time the Scottish nation made great commercial progress. Henceforward the flag of England was the Union Jack.

7. Unhappily, the Union with Scotland was not followed by a Union with Ireland. The Irish had still their own Parliament and laws, and were shut out from commerce with England. The English Parliament even made laws shutting out Irish goods from England, and the whole country, Protestant and Catholic, North and South alike, continued poor and discontented.

8. Towards the end of Anne's reign there was much wonder who would succeed her. The Jacobites wished to bring over from France James the Pretender. The Revolution settlement had fixed on his cousin George of Hanover as the heir. George was a German, he knew nothing and cared little about England and it seemed as though the Jacobites might succeed. Viscount Bolingbroke was on their side. However, when the Queen died, they were not quite ready, while the Whigs were better prepared and at once proclaimed George I. king.

• —————

9. The battle of Blenheim is famous for the long and skillful march which Churchill made from Holland to Bavaria, where no one was expecting him.

The battles of the war were —

1704. Blenheim.

1705. Ramillies.

1708. Oudenarde.

1709. Malplaquet.

CHAPTER XXVII.

THE HOUSE OF HANOVER.

GEORGE I. 1714 TO 1727.

1. George I., Prince of Hanover, was over fifty years old when he became King of England. He could not speak a word of English and he cared little about England. One result of this was to strengthen Parliament, especially the House of Commons, which now became the chief power in the state. Let us see who sat in it.

2. It was made up of members from the towns and the counties. These members were said to 'represent' the people, but we must notice that the places they represented were often small places with very few people in them. Sometimes this was because those places had been larger, centuries before, but people had left them when trade and industry became more profitable elsewhere. Still, they continued to send members to the House of Commons. It was really the great landlords who chose the members in such places, and, altogether, the House of Commons during the eighteenth century is a landlords' house. Even the members from the towns are not tradespeople, much less working-men.

3 The party in power, the party with a majority in the House of Commons, from the accession of George I onwards were the Whigs. It was they who brought over the Hanoverian kings, it was they who supported them, and they in turn were trusted by the kings.

4 It became now a fixed rule that the king should choose his ministers from the party who had a majority in the House of Commons. The chief of these ministers became known as the Prime Minister, and he and the other ministers formed the Cabinet. At first the king used to sit himself at all meetings of the Cabinet, but George I. gave this up, as he could not understand English, and other kings have followed his example. Thus the government of England passed into its present form or 'constitution'.

1715. 5 The disappointment of the Jacobites, led to a rebellion soon after George I's accession. It began in Scotland among the Highlanders, who formed an army and marched into the North of England. They managed things badly however, and they found the Pretender such a dull leader that they lost all spirit. After one or two defeats they scattered and the rebellion ended.

1720 6 A few years later England was much disturbed by the South Sea 'Bubble'. This arose



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JOHN CHURCHILL, DUKE OF MARLBOROUGH.
FROM THE PORTRAIT BY VANDER WERFF.



Hans II

SIR ROBERT WALPOLE.
FROM THE PORTRAIT BY VAN LOO IN THE NATIONAL
PORTRAIT GALLERY

over a company which was formed to trade in the South Seas, just as the East India Company traded in India and the Hudson Bay Company in North America. The South Sea Company was granted the right to trade with South America, and, at first it was an honest trading company which paid very well. Then the directors of it began to cheat the public by pretending their business was greater than it really was, and so the Company became a 'bubble' or fraud. This was not found out till many people had lost money by it—and also by other bubbles which were started in imitation of it.

7. In the confusion that followed Sir Robert Walpole became Prime Minister of the country. 1721
He held this post for twenty years, and did great service to England. He was a country gentleman by birth, but he had a very good head for figures and he was a great manager of men. He made up his mind that what England wanted was peace—peace at home and abroad. He wished to have no more rebellions, and as little quarrelling as possible between Whigs and Tories. He wanted no glories on the battle-field. He wanted to see England united under the Hanoverian kings, the Tory squires of the country living peacefully with the Whig traders of the towns. He was successful in bringing this to pass.

1716. 8. In this reign was passed the Septennial Act, which ordered that a House of Commons, once elected, should sit for seven years.

9. James I.

|
Elizabeth=Frederick Augustus

|
Sophia — Ernest (of Hanover)

|
George I.

CHAPTER XXVIII.

GEORGE II. 1727 TO 1760.

1. George II. was less of a foreigner than his father, but he took no great part in English politics and for the first part of his reign the country continued to be governed by his Whig minister Walpole.

2 As time went on Walpole began to make enemies. He kept all the power in his own hands and paid little attention to younger men. One of these younger men was named William Pitt. He was a man of no great family, but he was ambitious, both for himself and his country, and he was not satisfied with the quiet policy of Walpole. After a few years there was a trade quarrel between England and Spain, and Walpole was compelled against his wishes to begin a war. Nothing was achieved by the war, Walpole was blamed, and at last he lost his majority in the House of Commons and was forced to resign.

3. Other Whig ministries followed and they soon found themselves face to face with war both at home and abroad.

1742.

(1) There was one more serious rebellion in favour of the Stuarts. The Old Pretender's son, Charles Stuart, was now grown up. He was a brave winning young man and he made one last effort to grasp the crown of his fathers. He left France and landed almost alone in the North of Scotland and called on the Highland clans to follow him. The Tory part of the Highlands gladly answered his call, and before long there was a Highland army marching through the Lowlands towards England. The Highlanders scattered King George's forces at Preston Pans, near Edinburgh, and Charles was proclaimed king. Presently he marched south into England. But the long peace and prosperity of Walpole's government had done their work; there were few Jacobites left. Moreover, people were frightened at the strange appearance of the Highlanders, and their strange language, nor did they forget that Charles was a Roman Catholic. So little help came to him in England, and though he got as far south as Derby, his Highlanders grew discouraged and he had no choice but to return. A few months later his army was defeated and scattered at Culloden and he himself escaped with great difficulty to France.

4. After this the Government was no longer content to leave the Highlanders alone. Roads were made through the mountains, garrisons of



Mansell.

WILLIAM PITT, EARL OF CHATHAM.

FROM THE PORTRAIT BY RICHARD BROMPTON.



See p. 142

FRENCH, ENGLISH AND SPANISH COLONIES IN NORTH AMERICA.

English soldiers were placed there and the clans were broken up. The government of the country became the same as that of the rest of Great Britain.

5. (II) About the same time began on the Con- 1740-
 tinent the War of the Austrian Succession. This 1748.
 arose through the death of the Austrian Emperor, who left his dominions to his young daughter, Maria Theresa. The neighbouring German state of Prussia was just rising into power and its ruler Frederick attacked the young queen. There soon burst out a war all over the Continent, every state taking sides with her or against her, and George II, who was Prince of Hanover, entered the struggle on her side. He was himself a soldier, and led the British troops to victory against France in the battle of Dettingen. This was the last battle in which a British king led an army in person. The war ended after some years in a half-victory for Maria Theresa, who lost much of her territory. As for England and France, by the terms of the peace, they restored to each other all conquests either side had made. 1743.

6. This war was the first continental war that made itself felt in India. Dupleix was the French governor at the time, and he and the English continued their struggle, even after peace was

restored in Europe. The French king disapproved of this and recalled him, and the English Company became supreme on the Coromandel Coast.

7. (III) During this war both England and France came to see that they would have to fight for possessions and trade all over the world. At this time the two things went together, for every country shut out the traders of other countries from its own possessions; if, then, France became mistress in India or America, English trade in these countries would disappear. Both nations, accordingly, were ready for war, and war came once more through a new quarrel between Frederick and Maria Theresa. This time, however, the English joined Frederick, the French, Maria Theresa.

1756-1763 8. The beginning of the Seven Years' War was not favourable to the English and Prussians, and it was not till Pitt became Prime Minister in England that things changed. He was as great a war-minister as Walpole had been a peace-minister, and he was able to choose good generals and admirals to fight under him. He did not send many British soldiers to the Continent, and Britain did not lose many lives during the long and terrible struggles there. He sent money, however, to Frederick, which enabled him to hold out against France, and he fought the French in other parts of the world.

9. In North America, as we have seen, Canada had belonged to the French since the times of the Stuarts. They now formed a plan to acquire all the rest of the Continent, except only that part of the Eastern Coast which belonged to Britain. They settled Louisiana in the far South, and they began to occupy the valleys of the Mississippi and Ohio rivers. If these had once been occupied by the French, the English colonies would have been cut off from all the West of the Continent. The colonies themselves saw this and when war was declared between France and England they attacked the new forts and settlements of the French. Presently an English expedition sailed up the St. Lawrence and assailed Quebec. This was the chief town of the French; it was situated in a high and strong position near the river. The attack was led by a young officer named Wolfe, who 1759: was killed, but it was successful and Quebec fell. Soon afterwards the French power in Canada was quite overthrown.

10. In India the battle of Wandiwash, gained 1760: by Sir Eyre Coote, put an end to all hopes of French ascendancy in the Carnatic; while the battle of Plassey was the first important victory of the 1757. English against an Indian power. It was Clive's chief triumph in the field. •

1763. 11. The result of all these victories was assured by the Treaty of Paris, in the third year of George III.'s reign. The French still kept Pondicherry, but their day in India was over; they still kept Louisiana, but they soon sold it to Spain. England became the chief world-power, both in the East and West.

12. The quarrel between England and Spain arose over the right to trade with South America. The English ships smuggled goods into South America against the wishes of the Spaniards and against the Treaty of Utrecht.

1745 13. Soon after the battle of Dettingen the English were defeated by the French in the battle of Fontenoy.

14. After the battle of Culloden the Young Pretender escaped to France. He made no more attempts on the English Crown, and, though descendants of his are still alive, they have never tried to recover it.



Man II

GEORGE III

FROM THE PORTRAIT BY ALLAN RAMSAY IN THE
NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY



WILLIAM PITT THE YOUNGER.
FROM THE PORTRAIT BY HOPNER.

CHAPTER XXIX.

GEORGE III. 1760 to 1820.

1. George III. was a very young man when he came to the throne, but his mind was made up about his duty as a king. He was the first of his house to feel himself a native of the country, in his proclamation he said he "gloried in the name of Briton." He gave the country all his affection and all his powers; we must call him a true patriot. But he did not approve of the form of government to which the early Georges had consented—the Constitution, under which the real power belonged to the Prime Minister, and the Prime Minister belonged to the party who had a majority in the House of Commons. He thought the king should be the ruler of the country, and should choose his own ministers—Whig or Tory—as he thought proper. His whole reign was one long struggle to bring this about. He never quite succeeded, though some things were in his favour. The Whigs had been in power since the days of Queen Anne, and the country had grown tired of them; moreover, they had no great leaders in George's reign. But George had not the ability to use his opportunities; he did not carry the people with him, and he did not choose his ministers well. In his last years his mind broke

down and he became insane. Personally, however, he was popular. He was a kindly man, pious and honest, and the most virtuous of his house.

2 He began, as we have seen, by closing the Seven Years' War and dismissing Pitt, now the Earl of Chatham. He did not want so powerful a minister, at last he found one to suit him in Lord North, the first Tory minister since Queen Anne's days. Lord North was a good business man, but he allowed the king to rule, and we must blame George III. himself for the misfortunes that followed. •

3 The scene of these misfortunes was the colonies in North America. Let us take a glance back at their history.

4 They had been founded in the Stuart days, by men who left England because they were not happy there. Most of them were founded by Puritans, but one was founded by Catholics, and they were all very different from each other. The northern colonists were small farmers, the southern were large landowners, with estates cultivated by slaves. Everywhere, however, the settlers had had to fight and work hard, and, they were brave active men. Each colony governed itself, raised its own taxes and made its own laws. Thus the settlers were quite free in every way except one,—

•

they were not allowed to send their produce to any country except England, and they were obliged to send it in English ships. They do not seem, however, to have minded this much, and they were on good terms with England till the reign of George III. In fact, they owed a good deal to England. It was an English army that fought the French and protected them against the approach of the French king in Canada. The colonies paid nothing towards the cost of this army, and naturally George III. and his ministers thought they ought to have done so.

5. Accordingly they brought before Parliament, and Parliament passed, a Stamp Act, ordering the colonists to use certain stamps made in England, for which they would have to pay the British Government. There is no doubt that Parliament had a right to pass this law, for the colonists were British subjects; and yet it was not wise. They ought to have seen that the colonists would not obey it. The colonists refused to do so. They declared that as they had no representatives in the House of Commons, the House had no right to tax them. They grew so angry that the British Government took back the Stamp Act, and levied duties on articles entering America. The colonies, however, would not allow this either; they had grown suspicious of George III. and at last they took up

1765.

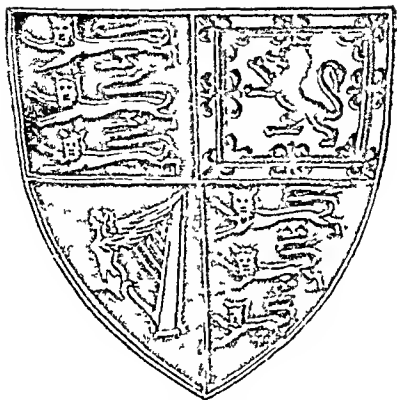
arms against him. They soon made up their minds to be separated from Britain altogether and issued a Declaration of Independence. They then took the name of the United States of America.

6. A long war followed. The first battle was at Bunker's Hill, near Boston. It was a drawn battle. On one side were the British soldiers, on the other the American farmers, who had not learned military drill, but had many of them hunted and fought in the Indian wars and were very good shots with the musket. They could not meet the British soldiers in the open field, but they fought battles in the woods, and they knew the country better. Moreover, there were more of them.

7. The British at home, on the whole, supported the king. The old Earl of Chatham tried to prevent the war, but he died and it went on. George did not choose the right men for generals: the only good general the British had was Lord Cornwallis. He however came on the scene too late. By that time the French had joined the colonists, and they had sent a powerful fleet to cut off British troops and supplies from America. Lord Cornwallis found himself shut up at Yorktown by an American army and a French fleet, and he was forced to surrender. This was the end of the war. Peace was made and the United States remained independent.

1776

1781.



1. ROYAL ARMS PRESENT TIME.
- 2 ONE OF THE STAMPS AS ORDERED TO BE USED UNDER
THE STAMP ACT [See p. 13]



NAPOLÉON BONAPARTE,
AFTER PAUL DELAROCHE.

under their own President. Since then they have spread to the Pacific ; they have conquered and annexed much of the old Spanish possession of Mexico, but they have never brought Canada under their flag. Strange to say, while George was quarrelling with his own old English subjects, his officers were ruling his new French subjects wisely and well, so that they never joined the colonies against us.

8. By the end of the war the glory of England, which rose so high at the treaty of Utrecht, had sunk low. Not only the Americans and the French but the Spanish were at war with her. Fortunately a great admiral was found in Rodney, whose victories enabled England to make favourable terms of peace.

9. The period of the American war formed the first half of George III.'s reign. During the war Lord North resigned and George had much trouble to find a successor, for, as we have seen, he was not skillful in his choice of men. At last the man was found in William Pitt, the younger son of the Earl of Chatham. He was the great son of a great father, yet his gifts were just the opposite of those of his father. He was indeed to the Tories what Walpole had once been to the Whigs, a great peace-minister. His object was to rule the country economically and develop trade. He

had views of doing many things which were done long afterwards. He was a Free Trader, especially he wished to see Free Trade between Britain and Ireland; he wished to change the laws against the Roman Catholic religion; he wished to reform the House of Commons. The people of England were not quite ready for these changes, but every year they were growing more ready, partly because they were growing more prosperous and they were forgetting the bitter quarrels of the past. If peace had continued and Pitt, who was a very young man, had lived, no doubt these changes would all have come about. And it seemed quite likely that peace would continue, for there were no causes of quarrel in Europe. Often, however, in history the unforeseen happens, and so it was at this time. Europe was about to enter on the longest and bloodiest war it has ever known, arising from causes entirely new and unforeseen.

10. To find these causes we must go to France. We have seen how France rose to power under Louis XIV., who, nevertheless, was humbled towards the end of his life by Marlborough. From that time onwards the history of France had been one of failure. She lost both her American and her Indian possessions, and dishonour abroad was accompanied by trouble at home. The government

of France had not, like the government of England, changed with the changes of modern times. These changes, which had come in England, were still to come in France. Louis XIV. had been like Henry VIII, an absolute king; he had put down the old nobles, and ruled without a Parliament. After his death came weaker kings and bad ministers, while the middle class, as in England, was growing richer and more powerful and more unwilling to submit to bad government. They had more to complain of than in England, for the nobles paid no taxes; the middle class and the poor paid for everything and the poor paid far too much.

11. At last the French king was obliged by want of money to call a Parliament, but he found the Parliament and the whole nation against him. They were full of new ideas. Some of them had been to America and fought for the Americans, and they had seen the United States form themselves into a Republic under a President; they thought France ought to follow this example. The opinion of these people prevailed and the king of France was deposed. This great change is known as the French Revolution. 1789.

12. It soon led to war between France and other nations. The other kings of Europe began to feel that the Revolution might spread to their

subjects and they too might lose their crowns. They tried to help the king of France, and the leaders of the French Revolution, when they saw this, put to death their own king and declared war on all the rest.

13 In the beginning of the Revolution there were many English people who approved of it. The chief of them was Fox, the leader of the Whigs. They thought that the Revolution would give France a constitution and a constitutional king like that of England. But when they saw the king of France put to death they changed their minds. The British Government became afraid lest this violent movement should spread to England, and they passed laws forbidding all speeches and meetings in favour of it. Moreover, very unwillingly, they joined in the war against France. Pitt saw that the time was not come for his schemes of reform, and that he must spend the rest of his life, like his father, managing war.

14. Pitt was by no means so great a war-minis'ter as his father. He did not much care about throwing away British lives, and his plan was rather to help the allies of England with money than to send armies on the Continent. This plan cost England so much that at the end of the war there was a national debt of six hundred million



Nelson Brontë

LORD NELSON.

FROM THE PORTRAIT BY J. HOPNER.



THE BATTLE OF THE NILE

& ON THE NIGHT OF AUGUST 1ST 1798

FROM THE PICTURE BY GEORGE ARNOLD A R A IN THE GALLERY AT GREENWICH HOSPITAL.

pounds. And after all England owed her success rather to her soldiers and her sailors than to her money.

15. For many years the war on the Continent was all in favour of France. The armies of the Republic found a leader in Napoleon Buonaparte, a young Corsican who fought under the French flag. His first great victories were won over the Austrians in Italy, and when he returned to France he became the most powerful citizen there. He then resolved to turn the arms of France against England, and, if possible, to win back for France the empire she had lost in India. As a first step to this end, he would conquer Egypt. So to Egypt he went, taking with him an army and a fleet; he landed, and in a few weeks Egypt was at his feet. But by this time England had found the man who was to ruin his schemes. This was a young naval officer named Nelson. He was on duty in the Mediterranean and, though Napoleon escaped him, he followed him to Egypt and found his fleet anchored in Aboukir Bay. Napoleon thought they were quite safe from attack where he had put them, but Nelson found a way to reach them, and in the battle of Aboukir Bay—or the battle of the Nile—he destroyed them every one. 1798

16. After this Napoleon was cut off from France and he soon found he could do nothing more in Egypt. He returned to France and, no longer content with being a citizen of the Republic, he put an end to the Republic, by the aid of his soldiers, and made himself Emperor of France. The French people were glad to see power once more in the hands of a single man, for the Republic had not governed the country well, and the war on the Continent had been going against France. Napoleon changed this. He attacked Austria again, and humbled her, and threatened, though he could not injure, England. At last both France and England found themselves ready for peace and peace was made by the Treaty of Amiens. Both sides gave up their conquests during the war, except that England kept Ceylon. This she had taken from Holland, which had been an ally of Napoleon's.

17. There was no reason why the war should not have ended with the Peace of Amiens. The French nation had successfully defended itself against the attacks on the Republic; it was in no danger, and it had plenty of work to do at home. The new government of Napoleon was different from that of the old French kings and it had to arrange the laws of France differently and to make many other changes. Napoleon did actually make

these changes, and the best part of his work for France was no doubt the new laws he gave her. If he had been satisfied with this work, he might have been the greatest benefactor of France that she has known. But he gave way to his passion for military glory; he led the country into wars for which there was no reason but his own ambition. These wars cost millions of lives, and though they gave France some great victories they ended in her shame.

18. The one enemy that Napoleon had never humbled was Britain, and it was Britain that he hated most of the European nations. He did not think she could resist him alone. The British government even with Pitt at its head was a weak one. Napoleon made sure that if once he could invade England he would crush it at a blow. The invasion did not seem at all impossible, for the Straits of Dover were only twenty miles wide, and if he could unite the fleets of Spain and France he would have more ships than England. So he collected a huge army on French coast opposite England, and waited in the hope that his fleet would either beat the English fleet or at least keep the Channel clear while his army crossed to England. But here England was saved by her sailors and by Nelson. When at last the French and

Spanish fleets ventured out to sea Nelson fell upon
 1805. them at Trafalgar, where the whole naval force of
 these two countries was destroyed. Nelson perished
 in the victory, but his work was done. For many
 years to come there could be no French fleet at
 sea.

19. Napoleon lost no time after this in mov-
 ing his army against his old enemy, Austria. A
 few weeks after Trafalgar he won the greatest of
 1805. his victories at Austerlitz, which shattered the
 power of Austria. He then set to work breaking
 up and rearranging the old German kingdoms as
 he thought proper, and he made three new king-
 doms which he gave to three of his brothers. There
 was no power to oppose him. Prussia tried to
 1806. do so, but was humbled at the battle of Jena.
 He was master everywhere except in the little island
 of England. Soon after Austerlitz England was
 weakened by the early death of Pitt

20. Napoleon now tried to ruin England in
 another way, by closing all the ports of the Con-
 tinent against her. He thought this would ruin
 English trade, but nothing of the kind happened;
 English goods made their way into the Continent
 as much as before. Everything however had to be
 smuggled and the trading classes on the Continent
 found this very inconvenient. Also, the prices of
 goods rose, and people became discontented. This

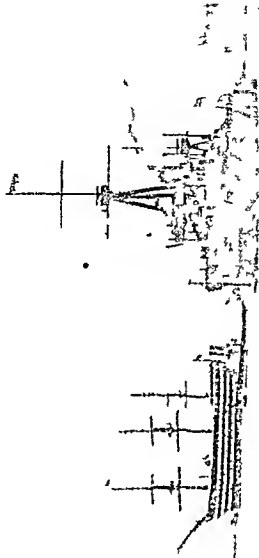


A SAILOR OF NELSON'S DAY

A GRENADEER TIME OF THE
PENINSULAR WAR



NAPOLEON'S MEDAL STRUCK TO COMMEMORATE HIS
INTENDED INVASION OF ENGLAND



HMS VICTORY AND A DREADNOUGHT IN PORTSMOUTH HARBOUR

1160 (bb 300) hsee

was one of the first reasons why Napoleon's rule became unpopular, even in France.

21. Then he made a great mistake in Spain. He sent his brother there as king, against the wishes of the Spaniards, and this roused the people against him. Now Napoleon had not yet known what it was to fight a *people*. When he fought against Austria and Germany, he fought the Governments of those countries, the Emperor of Austria and the King of Prussia, but many of their subjects were on his side. They thought if Napoleon won he would give them the new laws and the new life of France, so they did not support their own Governments very strongly. But in Spain the whole nation was roused against him. They were not able to fight his soldiers in the open field, but they made the country very uncomfortable for them. If any French soldier strayed away from the army he was sure to be killed, and it became difficult for the French soldiers to get food.

22. The British Government now did the first wise thing it did in the war by land; it sent Sir Arthur Wellesley with a few soldiers to help the Spanish and Portuguese. Wellesley had already made himself a name in India; Napoleon despised him as a mere 'Sepoy general,' little foreseeing

1808.

that it was this despised general who was one day to overthrow him. Wellesley had a long uphill fight in Spain. The British Government at one
1808 time recalled him and sent out Sir John Moore,
1809 who was killed in the hour of victory at Corunna. Wellesley returned however, and the French were never able to drive him out of the corner of Portugal where he fixed himself. For three years the war went on, till at last Napoleon suffered a heavy blow elsewhere.

23 This was in Russia, the one European country which he had never yet fought. He quarrelled with the Czar, and marched into Russia against him. He led an army of nearly half a million men, and it seemed impossible he should be beaten — he had never till that hour been beaten on any field of battle. But he made several mistakes. He meant to take the capital of Russia, Moscow, after which, he thought, the Russians would submit and make peace with him. But they had made up their minds to another plan. They left Moscow and allowed him to take it, but
1812. they did not make peace. They burned Moscow to the ground, and Napoleon found himself in the heart of Russia, without food or shelter, just at the beginning of winter. He had to retreat, but the snow fell over all the country, there were no

provisions to be found, and, before he left Russia, almost the whole of his vast army had died of cold and hunger.

24. Everyone now felt that Napoleon's career was over; and Wellesley, far away in Portugal, at last left his camp behind him and began to drive the French out of Spain. He took by storm the great French fortresses, — Badajoz and others; won the battle of Salamanca, entered Madrid; next year he won the battle of Vittoria and chased the French across the Pyrenees. Meanwhile Prussia and Austria once more were fighting Napoleon, and his power was crushed in the great battle of Leipzig. After this Napoleon gave up his throne and retired to the Island of Elba, where he promised to live as a private man to the end of his days. 1813.

25. The European Powers then met in a Congress at Vienna, to decide how they should settle Europe after the war. The first thing they did was to give the crown of France back to Louis, the brother of the French king who had been put to death in the early days of the Revolution. Unfortunately, he did not at all satisfy the French people, and Napoleon soon saw that he had still friends enough in France to make a flight there. So he broke his promise to stay in Elba, and one day

the Congress of Vienna learned that he had
1815. landed in France and was already at the head
of a French army.

26. The Powers did not even consider the
possibility of peace with him, but at once brought
together all their forces to crush him. They were
put under the command of Wellesley, now Duke
of Wellington, and the last battle of Napoleon's
1815 career was soon fought at Waterloo. He showed
his old genius for war. He managed to separate
the British troops from the Germans and then threw
his whole army against them, hoping to crush them
first. But Wellington formed his men into squares,
and kept them steady under the French attack
waiting till the Germans could rejoin him. All
day long the French cannon played on the British
squares and the French cavalry charged them, but
they never broke and towards evening the Prus-
sians appeared. The British line then moved
forward in a general advance, and the French
turned and fled.

27. Napoleon surrendered himself to the English.
They spared his life—which he little deserved—
and sent him to the island of St. Helena, where
they kept him at their own expense till he died.
No man, perhaps, in the history of the world has
risen to such power or brought such misery on
his fellow-men.

28. After his fall the Congress of Vienna met once more. They settled the map of Europe as they thought proper; what England gained was the Cape of Good Hope and some West Indian Islands. The Cape of Good Hope had belonged to the Dutch, who were allies of Napoleon during the war. The Island of Java, which the British had also taken from the Dutch, was given back to them.

29. We shall now turn back to glance at the history of England in India during the reign of George III. It is the period of the Mysore wars, in which the French tried to gain a place in the country once more, by the aid of Haidar Ali of Mysore.

(1) During the war with the Americans Haidar Ali and the French fought the English on even terms.

(II) During the Revolution there were two wars with Haidar's son Tipu. In spite of some letters that passed between him and France he did not receive much real help, and finally he died in the storm of Seringapatam. While these wars were in progress, the British had also come into conflict with the Maratha powers of the west. These powers sometimes fought with Haidar and Tipu, sometimes against them; but both agreed in a

hostile attitude towards the British. The one ally that the British had was the Nizam of Haidarabad. However, it was not until after the fall of Tipu that there was much real fighting between the British and the Marathas. The British leader who then rose into notice was Wellesley; his chief
 1803. victory was that of Assaye. By this the forces of Gwalior and Nagpur were overthrown, and not long afterwards other generals dealt with those of Indore. The Maratha powers then recognised and became subject to the supremacy of the British.

30. When George III began his reign, the British in India were still a company of merchants, but changes had set in. Three years before, Clive
 1757. had won the battle of Plassey, and the Company began to administer Bengal. The nation at home soon felt that the Company, being now a Government, ought to be subject to the Government of
 1784. England. Accordingly measures were passed first by Lord North and afterwards by Pitt, which enabled the British Government to control the Company. Above the Court of Directors was placed the Board of Control and while the Directors appointed a Governor-general, the appointment had to receive the approval of the King.



Photo Eyre and Spottiswoode

THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON.

REPRODUCED FROM THE ORIGINAL IN THE NATIONAL
PORTRAIT GALLERY, LONDON.



See 106.

WELLINGTON LEADING THE DECISIVE CHARGE AT WATERLOO
FROM THE PAINTING BY CLINNELL

31. The first Governor-general was Warren Hastings, who had been a servant of the Company and had risen to be head of the Bengal Government. He gave India laws and a system of Government, and every one now agrees that he was both a wise and honest ruler. The Whigs of England, however, were his enemies, because he had been chosen by the Tory Pitt and the King, so, when he returned from office, they brought against him false charges of cruelty and oppression in India. The trial lasted many years. At last it was found that nothing could be proved against Hastings and he died an honoured man.

32. During Hastings' career, the wars with Mysore began, they continued under Lord Cornwallis; they were finished under Lord Wellesley. Under Lord Wellesley were fought most of the Maratha wars—in which his brother Arthur was the chief British general. When he left India, the British Government had become the Supreme Power there.

33. A further change was now made in the system of Government. The old Company, though it had now become a governing body, had still the sole right of trading with India. It had been given to it by their first Charter, and this charter was

renewed from time to time. The merchants of England, however, were no longer satisfied with this, and they insisted that India should be opened to any merchant who wished to trade there. This was done. The Company then soon ceased to trade and all its servants became officers of Government.

34 Just as George III died the last war with the Marathas took place, the Peshwa's country was annexed and the Bombay Presidency was formed. After this we may say that except in the North-west the British Empire in India had taken its present form. This all happened during the reign of George III —

George III.

1760

1820

India.

Plassey 1757.

Kirkee 1817.

35. As there is a history of India in the reign of George III so there is a history of Ireland. All through the 18th century this history was unhappy. The Irish Roman Catholics suffered from the laws against Catholics, and the Protestants of the North from laws which were not fair to Irish industries. The whole country was very dissatisfied, and at last there was a rebellion, during the French Revolution. The Irish hoped the French would

help them, but the French failed to do so, and the rebellion was easily put down. Pitt would have been glad to change the laws against the Roman Catholics, but George III. opposed this, and for a time Pitt ceased to be minister. George III. was here quite wrong; the Catholics were good subjects of his and to keep them discontented was to injure his own country. Pitt however could not make him see this, and though he returned to power all he could do was to unite the Parliaments of the two countries. This was better for Irish trade, but it did not make Ireland contented.

1800.

36. There remains only to notice the short war with the United States of America which took place during the Napoleonic wars. The chief cause of this was the claim made by the British Government to search American ships for goods belonging to France. The Americans would not allow this and a war followed. It did not result in any great battles but it caused a bitterness between the two countries which lasted for many years.

1812.

37. It was just after the loss of the American colonies that Britain began to found a part of her Empire which she still possesses in the

Southern seas This was the Australian colonies. The continent of Australia had long been known, but little attention was paid to it till Captain
 1770 Cook, in George III's reign, explored its shores. He brought back the news that the southern parts of it were a temperate country, where Europeans could live. The British Government decided to send there some of the convicts who filled the gaols of England. Their object was chiefly to get rid of these unfortunate men. So they sent them to
 1788. Australia, where they settled on the harbour of Sydney. But the society founded in this unhappy way soon grew and prospered, colonists arrived and Australia became the scene of busy and prosperous states. It was not long before sheep were taken there and the woollen mills which were growing up in Yorkshire were importing vast cargoes of wool from the Antipodes.

38 The leader of the American Colonies in the war was George Washington. He showed himself a great soldier, and he was a devoted servant of his country both in peace and war. He became the first President of the United States.

[More details of Napoleon's career will be found in the Chapter on European history]

39. The great battles of Nelson's career were:—

1797. St. Vincent. The Spaniards were defeated. Nelson fought in this battle, but was not in command.

1798. The Nile.

1801. Copenhagen. Napoleon had compelled the Danes to join him, and Nelson destroyed the Danish fleet.

1805. Trafalgar.

40. Wellington's army in the Peninsular was always small and for three years he could only just hold the South-west corner of Portugal. He drew a line of fortifications across it at Torres Vedras, and the French could never drive him out of these. From time to time Wellington himself left them and fought the French. During all his career he was never defeated on any field of battle and never lost a single cannon.

CHAPTER XXX.

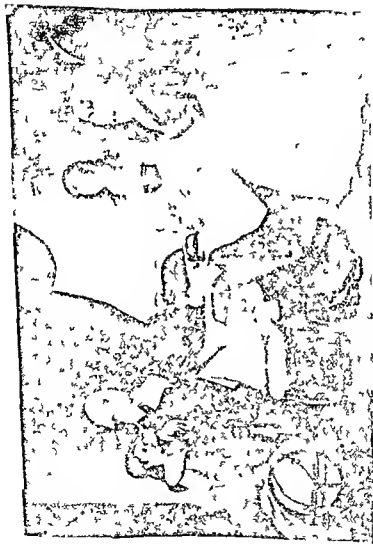
THE LIFE OF THE PEOPLE IN THE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY.

1. At the beginning of the 18th century the people of England were few compared with what they are to-day. They were perhaps 5,000,000 of people in the country, and most of them lived outside the towns. During this century, however, the towns began to grow. England became the chief manufacturing country of the world. We have seen how slow she was to take on this character. Only in the time of the Stuarts did she really begin to be a manufacturing country, but now she moved forwards in earnest.

2. (i) It became known that iron could be smelted with coal as well as with charcoal, and people began to work the coal-fields and iron-fields of Lancashire and Yorkshire.

1736 3. (ii) The steam engine came into use. It had long been known, but was now so much improved by Watt that it became a cheap and useful source of power.
1819.

4. (iii) Machines for the manufacture of cotton were invented, and the steam engine was applied to put these in motion. A great manufacture of



GEORGE WASHINGTON AND HIS FAMILY

FROM THE PAINTING BY SAVAGE



See p 10

OLD STAGE COACH



COSTUME OF GENTLEMAN 1721 COSTUME OF LADY 1787

cotton sprang up, and it found a home in Lancashire, where it was near the coal pits, and where the air is so moist that it is easy to spin fine cotton goods.

5 (iv) For the same reasons the woollen industry grew in Yorkshire, and England, which had exported wool all through the Middle Ages, now began to import it.

6. The result of these changes was that immense towns arose in Lancashire and Yorkshire, and the country people came and settled in them. There was another reason for this. We have seen that agriculture began to improve in the seventeenth century, this improvement went on much faster in the eighteenth century. English landowners learned to grow wheat, which had previously been imported. This had one result which was bad for the poor. The landowners did once more what they had done in Elizabeth's reign, just as they took the land of the poor then to feed sheep on, they took it now to grow corn on. Every village still had some 'common' land left, which belonged to all the villagers; this was now enclosed and turned into wheat fields. Thus many of the village people were driven into the towns, where they worked for the manufacturers. Unfortunately, their wages were very low, the new houses

that were built for them very bad and even women and children had to work very long hours

7 The growth of manufactures would not have been possible if the means of transport had not been improved This was done in two ways Canals were made all over England on which iron and coal could be easily and chiefly moved Moreover, for the first time since the day of the Romans good roads were made

8 Naturally, after this, the vehicles improved, and stage coaches began to run between the towns By the time of the Napoleonic wars these coaches travelled very fast and they carried letters all over the country

9 As for houses and towns they remained much what they were in the time of the Stuarts The streets were badly paved and they were not lighted at night Little or nothing was done in the way of drainage, but people were growing cleaner and we do not hear of the dreadful plagues of the Middle Ages Leprosy disappeared No doubt this was partly because food improved Wheat bread was coming into general use, there was better meat and more fresh meat to be had, and more vegetables The use of tea and coffee began though they were still expensive luxuries

10. The dress of the men had become quieter and simpler since the days of Elizabeth, but fashionable people still wore bright colours, and they still carried swords. There were no police and every one had to protect himself against robbers. An Englishman of our own times, if he could go back to the eighteenth century, would find it a much harder place to live in than the England of to-day.

11. The laws were still those of Elizabeth's time, very severe against all kinds of crime. There were many offences which were punished by hanging. Debtors were still shut up in gaol without mercy, and the gaols were foul and cruel dungeons. We are astonished to think that people allowed such places to exist so long, but it was only at the end of the century that a reformer arose to improve them. This was John Howard, who travelled all over Europe to visit gaols. He called the attention of people to the sufferings of prisoners and after his time prisons were slowly improved.

12. In religion England remained a strongly Protestant country. Her national church was the Church of England. A few Catholics remained outside this, and outside it there were also the Non-Conformists, or Dissenters, the descendants of the

old Independents of the Stuart days. There were laws against both religions, but they were not put into practice, except that Catholics and Dissenters were not allowed to become Government servants. The numbers of the Dissenters were much increased during the eighteenth century by the rise of the Wesleyans, the followers of Wesley. He was a member of the Church of England, who thought the Church too careless about the spiritual life of the people, and he left the Church and founded a body of his own. He lived all through the eighteenth century, and did much to make the people of England more truly religious than before. Though the Church of England lost him it too learned much from him, and the clergy at the close of the century were better and more spiritual men than at the beginning. It was at the end of the eighteenth century that the great missionary bodies were founded.

13 In every way there spread through the country a better understanding of the duty of man to man, which we call humanity. This was seen in the growth of a feeling against the slave-trade. English merchants had made much money by this trade, buying the negroes in Africa and selling them in America and the West Indies. A movement against this trade arose. It was supported by Pitt and orders were passed by Government putting it down.



THE HOUSE OF COMMONS

FROM A BLACK AND WHITE DRAWING BY T. WALTER WILSON, R. I.



THE HOUSE OF LORDS

FROM A BLACK AND WHITE DRAWING BY T WALTER WILSON, R. I

14. The sons of the rich and noble were educated at the great boarding schools of England ; the sons of the poor were scarcely educated at all. Girls, too, in all classes, had little education. Still, the eighteenth century was an age of great writers. There were poets and historians and philosophers, more of them even and more eminent than we have in England to-day. On the other hand there were few newspapers, and those few were very small compared with the journals of our own times.

CHAPTER XXXI.

GEORGE IV. 1820 TO 1830. WILLIAM IV. 1830 TO 1837.

1. For many years after the death of George III. Europe settled down to peace. But even during the peace a cause of trouble began to arise which is still at work in Europe and has led England already into one great war. This was the decay of the Turkish Empire. The Turks had conquered the South Eastern corner of Europe in the days of the Tudors, but during the eighteenth century they began to grow weaker, and in the nineteenth century they lost most of their empire in Europe. The first part to go was Greece. In the reign of George III. the Greeks rose in rebellion against Turkey. England, like other nations of Europe, sympathised with Greece, because Greece, two thousand years before, had taught Europe what civilization is, and it was felt that she ought to be free again. For this reason England helped

1827. Greece, and in the battle of Navarino her ships destroyed the Turkish fleet. Soon afterwards Greece became an independent state. During the century other states in South Eastern Europe also became

Independent, and the ill-feeling between them and Turkey continued to threaten war.

2. The Prime Minister of England at this time was Canning, a Tory, a friend of Pitt, a very able man who died young. He was followed by the Duke of Wellington, who now did his best for his country in peace as he had once done in war. In his time one of the great reforms promised by Pitt was carried through; the laws against the Catholic religion were repealed and Catholics were allowed to sit in Parliament. This removed a great grievance of the people of Ireland, still, the country had been unhappy so long that it was not yet prepared to be friendly with England and all through the nineteenth century the Irish remained hostile to her. They demanded at least that the Union of the two Parliaments should be repealed, and many of them were determined to make Ireland a separate country.

1829:

3 George IV. himself was an idle pleasure-loving man who took no great interest in politics. His brother William IV., who succeeded him, was good-natured and straightforward, but he too had little ability and did not take much part in the government of the country. It was in his reign however that another of Pitt's reforms was taken up and passed, the reform of the House of Commons.

4. The members of this House were still chosen just as they had been before the Wars of the Roses. They came from the same places, and they were chosen by the people living in those places. But we have seen what a change had passed over England since then. Huge towns had been built in countries where there was scarcely any population then, and country places where people once lived were now sometimes almost empty. Thus the House of Commons did not really *represent* the people any longer; most of them had no member of their own. Moreover, the right of voting everywhere belonged only to a very small number. Pitt, though he was a Tory, had seen that this must be changed, unfortunately the rest of the Tories were not wise enough to see it. They were most of them country gentlemen and were satisfied that all the members should come from the empty fields of the country; while the rich manufacturers of the towns wanted to see the towns represented. The Whigs took up the cause of reform, and after much excitement forced a Reform Bill through the House of Commons, and through the House of Lords, the king signed it and it became law. By this law, (1) the towns of England got a full share of political power, (2) votes were given to all men of any power. The working classes however did not get votes till later.



Mansell.

SIR ROBERT PEEL.

FROM THE PORTRAIT BY JOHN LINNELL IN THE
NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY.



Photo Vachon Dunlop

QUEEN VICTORIA

STATUE AT THE IMPERIAL INSTITUTE LONDON

5. Naturally, after this, the Whigs came into power, but they did not keep it long. All through the nineteenth century there was a continual change of ministers from one party to the other; it has never happened that one side has been in power as long as the Whigs were from Queen Anne to George III. So the Tories came back again, and their leader was Sir Robert Peel, a steady sensible man who governed England well for many years. But the names Tory and Whig now began to go out of use, and the parties called themselves Liberal and Conservative. The Conservatives were not friendly to great changes. They were still the party of country gentlemen; and their Church was the Church of England. The Liberals called themselves by this name because they were prepared to give freely new powers and opportunities to all classes of men. They were mostly traders; in religion they were Dissenters. The old laws against the Dissenters were gradually repealed during the period, just as those against the Catholics were.

CHAPTER XXXII.

VICTORIA. 1837 to 1901.

1. Victoria was the niece of William IV. It was a long time since England had been governed by a queen, and it was well for her, perhaps, that it was a queen who now came to the throne. She made the throne popular. She was young and virtuous and she soon gained her people's love, which she kept throughout all her long life. In the fierce political struggles of her reign she was a power that united all classes of Englishmen; both Liberals and Conservatives were always loyal to the throne.

2. Her reign on the whole was an age of peace. More than once there were disagreements with France and America, but they never ended in war. The Napoleonic wars gave the people of Europe a horror of war which kept them at peace for thirty years after Waterloo. It is in this century that we first hear of arbitration as a means of avoiding war. 'To arbitrate' is to give a fair opinion about the rights and wrongs of a quarrel, especially a quarrel which cannot be brought before an ordinary court of law. It sometimes happens that two nations agree to submit a quarrel to the government of a third nation, and this is called

arbitration. During Victoria's reign a quarrel between England and America was settled in this way. 1872.

3. There was one serious war with Russia. 1854
 It was caused by a war between Russia and Turkey; to
 England was afraid Russia might take the part of 1856.
 Europe which then belonged to Turkey, and afterwards would march against India. So she fought along with Turkey, and the French, her old enemies, joined her in war. The chief scene of it was Sebastopol, which was taken by the allies after a long siege. The Russians then made peace, and Turkey kept, for the time, most of her old Empire, in Europe.

4. Towards the end of the reign there was more than one war in South Africa. The Dutch settlers had never been friendly to the British Government, and many of them left Cape Colony and founded a new state across the Vaal river, the Transvaal. There was more than one war between the British and this state, and the last, which was long and severe, had scarcely ended when Victoria died. Soon after this the Boers surrendered, and lost their independence. The whole country passed under the British flag, though it was soon afterwards given a Government of its own, with a Parliament and a Governor sent from England.

5. In England itself there are two movements to be noticed throughout the reign :—

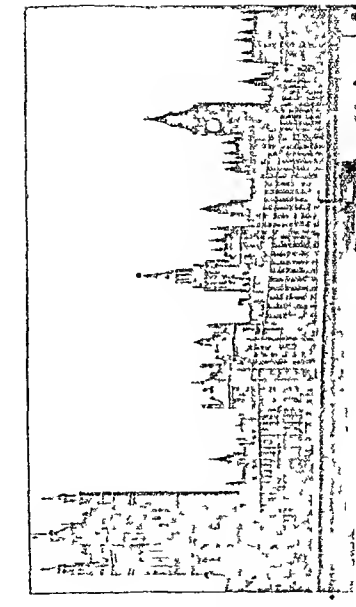
(1) A change in the government of the country. The first Reform Act had left the working classes without votes, two other acts which followed gave them votes, so that now almost every grown-up man in England has a vote.

6. (ii) A change in the system of trade. Up till now England, like other countries, had not allowed foreign goods to enter the country without paying duties. Even corn had to pay a duty. The country gentlemen approved of this, because it kept the price of corn high, and they grew corn. But the manufacturers did not approve of it, because they wanted cheap food for their work-people. Two of the manufacturers, Cobden and Bright, led a demand for the repeal of the corn duties—or Corn Laws. The nation followed them, and the Corn Laws disappeared.

7. The Prime Minister under whom this was done was Sir Robert Peel. He was a Tory, but he went against the wishes of the Tories in this matter. After a time he was followed by the Liberal Gladstone, who took the import duties off all manufactured goods coming into England. This system is called Free Trade, it was approved of even by the manufacturers themselves, because they thought it best



Photo London Stereoscopic Company.
W. E. GLADSTONE.



HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT

BUILT 1852

for the whole nation that everything should be as cheap as possible.

8. During the reign of Victoria the British Empire continued to grow and important changes took place in it. .

Ireland was still a scene of trouble. The chief grievance of the people was the very heavy rent of land. Ever since the days of Cromwell, many of the Irish landlords had been Englishmen living in England; they took heavy rents from Ireland and did nothing for the country. Towards the end of Victoria's reign the British government did away with this evil; it passed laws fixing the rents of Irish land and assisting poor people to buy it. Since these laws Ireland has certainly become prosperous, but she is not yet contented; the Catholics of the South, the old Irish, still desire a government separate from that of England, while the Protestants of the North wish to keep the Union.

9. In South Africa we have seen that a long war has been followed by a lasting peace. In Canada there was some trouble with the French settlers, and even a short rebellion. Fortunately, it was found possible to settle the country in accordance with the wishes of both the French and English inhabitants. For many years it has been contented and progressive.

1837.

10. The British Empire In the Southern seas was increased by the colonisation of New Zealand. Like Australia, this was first made known by Captain Cook ; it was not annexed by the British Government till long afterwards, but colonists began to go there early in Victoria's reign. They found a land rich in timber, in pasture grounds for sheep and cattle, with a fine and healthy climate. When they grew in numbers the British Government annexed and administered the country. At 1874. the same time it took over some of the South Sea Islands like Fiji, where there was no settled government and people from all parts of the world were beginning to arrive.

11. The history of India during Victoria's reign is not closely connected with that of England. If we name the most important events of the period they will be the Sikh wars and the annexations of Lord Dalhousie, with the Mutiny which followed them, the abolition of the Company and the beginning of direct administration under the British Crown.

12. The quarrel between England and America arose out of a Civil War between the United States of America. The Southern States still had slaves, the Northern States proposed to put an end to

slavery ; the Southern States resolved to leave the Union and found a new confederacy of their own. The Northern States would not allow this, and a war of three years followed. During this war a war-ship was built for the Southern States in England which destroyed many of the merchant-ships of the Northern States. The Northern States claimed that England was responsible for this injury to their ships and ought to compensate them. The claim was submitted to arbitration, and a decision was given that Britain should pay £ 3,000,000 compensation.

13. The struggle against the Corn Laws was a long one, but what settled it was the Irish famine. Most of the Irish peasants lived on potatoes ; in 1854 a disease destroyed the potato crops, and a famine set in. The only way to meet it was to repeal the Corn Laws, and allow the importation of cheap corn. 1845.

CHAPTER XXXIII.

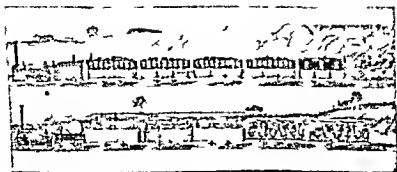
THE LIFE OF THE PEOPLE IN THE NINETEENTH CENTURY.

1. The nineteenth century, like the eighteenth, was a century of many changes. Some of these continued the changes of the past ; others were new in themselves.

2. Machines of all kinds were much improved, and the use of the steam-engine spread everywhere. Towards the end of the century it found a rival in the oil-engine, and a still greater rival in electricity.

1820 3. These three powers were all employed for the purpose of transport. First came the steam railway, with its locomotive engine, invented by George Stephenson. It soon drove the coaches off the roads, excellent as the roads and coaches were, and for fifty years it carried all the men and all the goods of Britain. Then came the motor car, with its petroleum engine, and the electric tram-car. These have all made it easy for people to move about, where one man travelled, a hundred years ago, many thousands travel now.

4. Not only men and goods but news travels faster than of old. The electric telegraph



PASSENGER TRAINS ON LIVERPOOL AND MANCHESTER
RAILWAY, OPENED 1830



Mansell

WILLIAM WILBERFORCE.
MONUMENT IN WESTMINSTER ABBEY.



Photo Frith Reigate

WESTMINSTER ABBEY, WEST FRONT

was invented in England during Victoria's reign; it places the news of the whole world before every civilized man daily. This news is printed in newspapers, by rapid machinery, which turns out many thousands of copies in an hour; thus we have the daily paper at a half penny, which is no doubt the cheapest thing that has ever been sold in the history of the world. Here too we may recall the penny post. It was in England that Government first carried letters cheaply; this cheap postage has now spread to the whole British Empire, and a letter travels all over it for a penny. 1840.

5. The large towns which grew up in the eighteenth century continued growing. During the nineteenth century people began to think of making them beautiful and healthy as well as large. They were all well drained, and well lighted. Gas was invented, and thanks first to gas, afterwards to electricity, the darkness of the old streets disappeared. Moreover, there was much better order in the streets. A force of policemen was set up, young strong men, who did their work well and at the same time were trusted by the people. 1810. 1829

6. The one part of England which did not share in all the prosperity of the nineteenth century was the country. After the repeal of the Corn

Laws, cheap corn from foreign countries poured into England, and it no longer paid to grow corn at home. Rents fell, and wages fell, and country people of every class became dissatisfied. We cannot say it was an age of progress in the country.

7. Still, there was progress in England as a whole, progress in wealth and comfort, and a change in men's thoughts and feelings which was even truer progress. This change was a desire to raise people's character and lives. We have seen the beginnings of this in the works of Howard and Wilberforce. The nineteenth century continued it. The slave trade had been forbidden, now the possession of slaves was forbidden in all British countries. The slaves of the West Indies were set free, and the British Government paid their value to their masters. At the same time in England, the evils of the old prisons were done away with, they were made, so far as possible, places where men should not only be punished but reformed. The laws of the country became milder, the punishment of death was no longer inflicted except for murder.

8. Something too was done for the working classes. We have seen how these suffered in the new manufacturing towns, and how even children

were cruelly over-worked. From the middle of Victoria's reign the Law came to the help of these ; both children and women were protected, and those who employed were obliged to make their employings safer and healthier than before.

9. Moreover, along with the march of invention in the century we must not forget that of science, which seeks knowledge not for its uses but from a love of knowledge itself. The age was an age of science all over the world, and amongst the foremost names those of Englishmen are not wanting. We must put first, no doubt, that of Darwin, the great naturalist.

1809-
1882.

10. Nor is it in science alone that great names show themselves ; in literature the age of Victoria is the third of the great ages. Poets, historians and novelists — all are to be found in it and much of their work is amongst the best work in English.

11. Education became for the first time general in all classes of the country. Everyone felt that this was right and necessary. Political power had been given to all classes, and all should have the knowledge and training which are needed to use it. The upper classes had their own old schools, and towards the end of Victoria's reign, State schools were founded for the mass of the people.

1871]

These were presently made free. At the same time the large towns began to open free libraries and museums, so that it may now be said there is no sort of knowledge which a man cannot get in England because he is poor.

CHAPTER XXXIV.

LOOKING FORWARD.

1. To-day the death of Queen Victoria marks .1901. the end of the Past in English history; the reigns of Edward VII. and George V. belong to the Present. We can feel that since the old Queen died, there have been changes, events have taken place, and are taking place every year, but they are part of our own lives and we may study them not from books alone but from the lives of men around us. So they hardly belong to History yet.

2. We may, however, say this much about them, that already we can see how the times are changing; new opinions and new habits are growing up and the nations of the world have new problems to face. Let us glance for a moment at those of England.

3. At home, there is still the question of the great poverty of many classes of people. The wealth of England does not make the lives of these people better or happier. It is felt that England, as a nation, should not be contented till at least all who are able and willing to work should have honourable work and fair pay assured them. Many

people look to Government as the proper body to provide for this, and there is no doubt that Government will do more and more in the near future for the labouring classes. At the same time the form of Government will no doubt be changed; all grown-up men and possibly women will become voters, and all inherited power, except that of the Sovereign, may disappear.

4. Looking now beyond the shores of England, we see that the people of the British Dominions have changed from what they were sixty years ago. Then they were almost all emigrants, who had left England; now they are almost all men and women who were born where they live. To each of them his own part of the earth is his home and country, and it is possible that the nations so formed may not always be friendly to England. At present, however, there is not only friendship on both sides, but a desire to draw still closer for intercourse in peace, and, if need be, for common help in danger. The problem for the statesmen of England is now to keep this friendship alive and to provide means by which all parts of the Empire may exchange views and advice.

5. The place of England in Europe is a strong one, and the present hour is an hour of peace. But the immense armies and navies of every civilized

country prove that it is not an age of international friendship ; and no nation can afford to neglect the ever present danger of war.

6 Thus, at home and abroad, the Future is a future of problems and perils. Perhaps it has always been so, at all times in the history of the world. And perhaps the best lesson that history teaches is the need of incessant activity, if a people are to keep their place in the civilized world. What exactly they are to do, History cannot teach them, for the problems of our own age are always different from those of the earlier ages. But History can teach us that no nation escapes such problems, and no nation will live and flourish which does not face them with brave and serious effort. This is the lesson of the Past for the Future.

APPENDIX I.

SUMMARIES.

DATES TO BE LEARNED.

B. C.

55. Julius Cæsar Invades Britain.

A. D.

1066. The Norman Conquest.

1215. The Great Charter.

1314. Bannockburn.

1346. Crecy.

1415. Agincourt.

1455. The Wars of the Roses begin.

1534. The authority of the Pope in England
abolished.

1588. Defeat of the Spanish Armada.

1649. Charles I executed.

1688. The Revolution.

1713. The Treaty of Utrecht.

1745. The Young Pretender's Rebellion.

1776. The American Declaration of Independence.

1805. Trafalgar.

1815. Waterloo.

1832. The Reform Act.

THE BRITISH EMPIRE

Scotland.

Crowns united.	James I.
Parliaments united.	Anne.

Ireland.

Norman Invasion.	Henry II.
Conquered.	Elizabeth.
Parliaments united	George III.

America.

Newfoundland settled.	Charles I.
Nova Scotia settled.	Charles I.
Canada taken from France.	George II
[Seven Years' War.]	

West Indies.

Bermudas settled.	James I.
Barbadoes settled.	James I
Jamaica taken from Spain.	Cromwell.
Trinidad taken from France.	George III.
[Napoleonic War.]	
British Guiana taken from Holland.	George III.
[Napoleonic War.]	

Africa.

Cape of Good Hope. (From Holland.)	George III.
[Napoleonic War.]	
Egypt occupied.	Victoria.

Asia.

Straits Settlements occupied.	George III.
Hongkong occupied.	Victoria.

Australasia.

Sydney colonised.	George III.
New Zealand colonised.	George III.
Fiji occupied.	Victoria.

ENGLISH LAND.

- I. The Saxon villages with their common land and the forest round them.
- II. The Norman manor. The forest is now a hunting-ground of the lord, and the common land is tilled by the Saxon freemen and their serfs; they give the lords first a share of the produce, afterwards money.
- III. The Black Death. Much of this common land deserted; the lords and the freemen try to find labourers but cannot. They offer higher wages.
- IV. The Tudors. Much of the land enclosed by the landlords, for sheep-farms.
- V. The Eighteenth Century. Much more land enclosed, for corn-fields.

INDUSTRY.

- I. Middle Ages. Little Industry ; England exports wool, imports corn, and all useful articles. English ships few.
- II. Elizabeth. Industry begins. Commerce begins ; the great companies.
- III. The Stuarts. The French king drives out the Protestants ; they bring manufactures, such as paper and silk.
- IV. The Eighteenth century. (I) Machinery steam. (II) Growth of British Empire and Commerce. Corn raised in England.
- V. The Nineteenth Century. England supreme both in manufactures and commerce. Losses in agriculture.

RELIGION IN ENGLAND.

- I. The Britons were pagans.
- II. The Britons received Christianity from the Romans.
- III. The Saxons were pagans.
- IV. The Saxons received Christianity from the Pope and from Ireland.
- V. The Normans were Christians ; all England Christian under the Pope.

- VI. Wycliffe.
- VII The English Church leaves the Roman Church under Henry VIII .
- VIII The Puritan members of the Church wish to carry the Reformation further. War between them and the others.
- IX. Many Puritans leave the Church during the war and become Independents.
- X The Revolution The Independents (Non-Conformists, Dissenters) are allowed to worship but not to hold Government offices So too the Catholics. *Toleration* becomes the rule.
- XI The Nineteenth Century. The laws against Dissenters and Catholics are all removed, (except that the Sovereign must be a member of the Church of England).

THE GOVERNMENT OF ENGLAND.

- I. The Saxons. The Saxon settlements govern themselves ; the laws of the whole country are made by the Witan-gemoot and the King.
- II. The Norman Conquest Laws made by the King with his Great Council of Barons.

- III. The Great Charter. No new taxes to be raised without the consent of the Great Council.
- IV. Henry III. Simon de Montfort calls representatives of the towns to this Council, which becomes the Parliament.
- V. Edward I. to the Tudors. The Power of Parliament increases ; they grant taxes to the King and make laws.
- VI. The Tudors. Parliament weak ; still, the Tudors do not offend people by new taxes.
- VII. The Stuarts raise new taxes without the consent of Parliament. War.
- VIII. The Revolution. Constitutional Government.
 - (a) New taxes and new laws must all be approved by Parliament.
 - (b) The king must employ only Ministers approved by Parliament.

APPENDIX II.

THE HISTORY OF EUROPE.

1. The part of the world which we now call Europe is in truth only a peninsula running out of the huge continent of Asia. But it has long had a history of its own.

2. Europe was of course inhabited before this history began. In the South East of it, in the islands of the Mediterranean Sea, we have dug up old houses which must have been built four thousand years ago. We cannot say who built them, but they were certainly civilized people, who lived in splendid and well-furnished homes. The history of Europe however only begins with the history of the Greeks, who lived in the little peninsula of Greece and in the islands near it. Even of their history we do not know all; before our accounts of their history begin they had written two great poems, which we still have left, yet we do not quite know who wrote them, nor whether the stories told in them are true.

3. The name given to the author of these poems is Homer, and in one of them, the Illad, he tells us the story of a war between the Greeks and the people of Asia, in which the Greeks besieged

B. C.
2000.

B. C.
1200.

and destroyed the Asiatic town of Troy. No doubt there were many such wars in early times, but the first one we really know anything about is a later war than this, between the Greeks and the Persians, of which the Greek historians have given us an account. The Persians had become masters of all the coast of Asia and they invaded Europe with a fleet and an army, proposing to add the Greeks to the number of their subjects. However, the Greeks defeated them, and the Persians did not again invade Europe.

4. The chief Greek peoples were the citizens of Athens and of Sparta. The Spartans were great soldiers, but the Athenians were great in every way; as builders of temples, sculptors of statues and writers of books. Though it is two thousand years since they passed away, still, even now the people of Europe look back to the buildings and statues and books of Athens as the best which they possess.

5. Athens was but a little town, and her glory did not last long. She was overthrown by the Spartans: not long afterwards the history of Greece came to an end. Before the end, however, the people of Greece had one more hour of triumph against Persia. They were led against her by Alexander, the King of Macedon, a country to the North of Greece. Under him the Greek soldiers

B. C.
404.

broke up the first Persian empire, and for some years much of Asia was under Greek rulers. Alexander even entered and conquered part of India; he died a young man at Babylon.

6. Meanwhile, there was growing up in Italy the second great power of ancient Europe, that of the Romans. Its centre was the little town of Rome, whose history is known to us from about 753, the same date as that of Athens. It was long before the Romans and the Greeks met each other, and when that happened, after Alexander's death, the Greeks had lost their strength and glory and were glad to become subjects of Rome.
- B. C. 7. For Rome had now become the ruling power of Southern Europe. She had mastered Italy, and she had fought a long fight with the city of Carthage in Africa. This was a city of the Phœnicians, a people who had been the chief merchants and traders of Europe from very early times. Some of their cities had been in Asia Minor, near Greece, and the Greeks had driven them away; Carthage was destroyed by Rome. After this the Romans spread their power all round the coasts of the Mediterranean; and their armies conquered Europe as far as the Rhine and the Danube. Asia Minor and Egypt also became theirs; neither heat nor cold nor the sea nor the desert stopped
- B. C. 264 to 146.

them. Where they conquered, they ruled; they made roads, they built towns, and they gave good laws to their subjects. Most of Europe to-day is still governed by Roman laws; all the languages of Southern Europe are forms of the Roman language, Latin.

8. The Romans tried various forms of government, but about the middle of their history they passed under the rule of emperors. Their greatest general was perhaps Julius Cæsar, the invader of Britain; it was his nephew, Augustus Cæsar, who became the first Emperor. At the time when he was ruling there was born, in Judæa, Jesus Christ, the founder of the Christian religion. B C. 27.

9. The empire of the Romans lasted long, but there came in due time the appointed hour of its fall. This was brought about by the nations of Northern Europe, beyond the Rhine and the Danube, whom the Romans had never tamed. Great bodies of these men invaded the Roman empire. They wore out the Roman armies and Rome perished. A. D. 400.

10. After this for some centuries there was much misery and confusion in Europe. Great bands of Saxons, Danes and Normans wandered about everywhere plundering the old Roman cities. The only place that was really safe from them was Constantinople, which had been founded by one of the best A. D. 330.

of Roman emperors, Constantine. It was a strong and beautiful city, and here peace and order were kept while the rest of Europe was in trouble.

11. At last, however, things settled down. The tribes of Northern Europe formed themselves into the two great races, German and French, and they began to build themselves cities and live in a more orderly way. There arose strong rulers amongst them, who kept order, as the Norman kings of England did.

A. D. 800 12. The rulers of Germany became known as Emperors. They took this title from the old Emperors of Rome. The first who held it was Charlemagne, who lived about the same time as the first Saxon King of England. He was a Christian and he did much to spread Christianity among the German peoples. His empire was very large; he ruled over nearly the whole of the Continent, except what belonged to Constantinople. After his death the French nation became separate under a king of their own. The German Emperors, however, continued to rule the centre of Europe. They often made expeditions into Italy, but they never quite managed to conquer the country, and towns like Florence and Venice became strong enough to be independent.

13. The German Emperors took the chief part in the Crusades. These lasted over a hundred years, and were joined at different times by all the nations of Europe, but most of the soldiers of the Cross came from Germany. We have seen elsewhere what changes the Crusades made in Europe. They only once succeeded in their object, to take Jerusalem from the Mahomedans, and after it was taken it was lost again. They cost Europe heavily in blood and money, and we can hardly say the world gained anything by them. They led, however, to some increase in trade between the East and the West. Moreover, they took away many unruly warriors from Europe, and this helped the Governments to become strong and to keep peace.

A. D.
1095
to
1270.

14. There was little war between France and Germany in their early history, and none between Germany and England. The German merchants often came to England to trade, and the English kings protected them, till in the reign of Elizabeth the English grew more active as merchants themselves. But between England and France there was long and cruel war, which did great injury to France. A large part of France, Burgundy, was almost independent, and it took the side of the English in the reign of Henry V. After this, however, France grew stronger, and during the Wars

of Roman emperors, Constantine. It was a strong and beautiful city, and here peace and order were kept while the rest of Europe was in trouble.

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of the Roses in England she became a great united power. This led at last to war between her and Germany, in the reign of Henry VIII. of England. The French King, Francis, was defeated, and the German Empire reached the height of its power under Charles V.

15. By this time Spain also had become a strong country. It had long been subject to the Mahomedan Moors, who conquered it about the time of
 A. D. Charlemagne. Some centuries later, the Spaniards
 1492. drove out the Moors, and both Spain and Portugal became independent kingdoms. The Portuguese were the first to begin the explorations of the seas. Two of the greatest early sailors belonged to them, Vasco de Gama, and Magellan. The former of
 1497. these sailed round the Cape of Good Hope to India,
 1520. The latter round Cape Horn across the Pacific to the Philippines. The Portuguese were the first to create an empire in the tropics, in East Africa, India, and the East Indies.

16. At the same time the Spaniards were making America their own. When Ferdinand and
 1492. Isabella sat on the throne Columbus made his famous voyage. At first it was thought he had only found a new way to India, but a few years later America was recognised as a New World. The Spaniards claimed the whole of it, except

the East of South America, Brazil, which they yielded to Portugal.

17. A marriage between the ruling families of Germany and Spain brought both countries under the same rule for a time, and this ruler was Charles V. Most of Germany, and Spain, and much of Italy was united under him as well as the New World. He overthrew the King of France and lived on good terms with Henry VIII. ; his chief trouble was with the reformer Luther. Charles was a Catholic, but many of the Germans followed Luther. 1525.

18. Charles also had to fight the Turks. It so happened that just after the Moors were driven out of Spain, another Mahommedan power, the Turks, entered Europe in the South East, and captured Constantinople. All through the Middle Ages the Emperor of Constantinople had been growing weaker ; the Crusades protected him for a time, but now the Turks triumphed, and Constantinople fell. Long after this there was constant war between the Turks and the Germans, and at one time not only Greece but a great deal of Austria and Hungary belonged to them. 1453.

19. The fall of Constantinople and the Turkish War had two results on Europe :—

(1) The old trade road to Asia was closed, and this was one reason for the sea voyages of the Portuguese and Spaniards. They wished to find the way by sea to India.

(11) In Constantinople the old Greek language was still spoken and there were many old Greek books there. When the Turks took the city these books and their owners were scattered throughout Europe. Thus the books of Athens became known to the world again, and there arose that love of the Greek books and Greek art which we call the Renaissance.

20 After the death of Charles V. his empire was divided. Of the German part of it there is not much to say, the Spanish throne was occupied by Philip, who sent the Armada against England. He also sent soldiers to fight against the Protestants of Holland, and in these wars he wasted so much money and so many men that after his death, the power of Spain passed away. So also that of Portugal declined; and the rising nation both in Europe and in the tropics became the Dutch. They won in the long stern struggle with Philip; and they became great seamen. They sent a colony to the Cape of Good Hope; they occupied several of the East Indies. But they did not trade much with India itself; the English were already on the scene there. Nor was it long before the English and the Dutch were fighting each other all over the sea, in the time of Cromwell and the Stuarts. The English came later than the Spaniards,

Portuguese or Dutch, but they were the most active and the most persevering and even the Dutch at last gave way to them.

21. In Europe, during the reign of the early Stuarts, Germany was passing through a long religious war, the Thirty Years' War, between the Catholics and Protestants. This quite destroyed the power of Germany for many years, and it left an opportunity for France to revive. This opportunity was well used by Louis XIV., whose long reign gave France for a time the greatest power in Europe. Nevertheless, Louis failed through trying to do, what Philip of Spain had not been able to do, to conquer the Dutch. The Dutch Prince William became King of England, and a Grand Alliance was made between Holland and England which, after William's death, began the War of the Spanish Succession. In this the French were beaten by Marlborough, and they never regained the position of the early days of Louis.

1618

to

1648.

1702

to

1713.

22 The next change in Europe was the rise of Prussia. This was a small German kingdom, which became a military state under Frederick the Great. Up till now the chief German state had been Austria, and the ruler of Austria had been Emperor of Germany. It so happened that Austria was left to a young girl, Maria Theresa, and Frederick determined to take from her a part of her dominions.

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1763. pean powers joined one side or the other; the war
was very severe and Frederick was nearly ruined.
However, he kept Silesia, and Prussia has been a
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24. These wars were at first defensive wars
waged by the French Republic against the kings of
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armies he at once led them into foreign countries
and attacked the enemies of France in their own
possessions. These were his chief campaigns:—

- (i) He drove the Austrians out of Italy.
- (ii) He went to Egypt.
- (iii) He returned to fight Austria again and won
the battle of Marengo.

The Treaty of Amiens.

- (iv) He attacked Austria, and won Austerlitz
- (v) He attacked Prussia, and won Jena.

His decline.

- (vi) He attacked Russia and lost his army at
 • Moscow; afterwards he was defeated
 at Lelpsic and retired to Elba.

(vii) He returned from Elba and lost Waterloo. After Napoleon's fall all the powers of Europe arranged to take back their own possessions, as they were before. A period of peace set in, broken only by the war which gave Greece her freedom from Turkey.

25. Later in the century the State of Prussia rose to the chief position in Europe, through the guiding genius of Bismarck. He humbled the two old rivals of Prussia, Austria and France, in successful wars, and he persuaded all the German states to recognise the King of Prussia as their head and to give him the title of Emperor. Since this date the united German Empire has been the strongest power on land in Europe, and of late years it has made itself very strong at sea.

1866.
1870.

26. Russia has spread eastwards throughout the whole of Northern Asia. She has never realised her old ambition of taking Constantinople from the Turk, and Japan has cut short her progress in the Pacific. Her desire to have free ports on the open sea is one of the causes that make the future of Europe uncertain.

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27. The chief dates follow each other at intervals of about 400 years. The following figures are sufficiently correct. (The exact figures are added for reference.)

B. C.

1200. Homer.

800. The History of Greece begins.

[776. First Olympiad.]

The History of Rome begins.

[753. Rome founded.]

400. The End of Greek History.

[336. Alexander comes to the throne.]

A D

0. The First Roman Emperor.
Christ born.

400 Christianity becomes the Religion of the Roman Empire.
[325. Council of Nice.]

Dark Ages.

The Fall of Rome begins.
[476. Augustulus, the Last Roman Emperor of the West.]

800. The Empire of Charlemagne.

Middle

Ages.

{ 1200. The Crusades.

{ 1400. The Renaissance.

{ 1800. The French Revolution.

[1793. The Execution of Louis.]

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